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OPINION METER

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INSIDE

LOCAL



The Saipan Mayor's Office presents today the enhanced U.S. Armed Forces Memorial. **PAGE 5**



Brandon Tudela Demapan is commissioned for second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. **PAGE 16**



Marianas High School students are inducted into the National Honor Society. **PAGE 25**

DPS warns against plan to block Saipan highway. **PAGE 5**
World Resort donates \$12K for Haiyan relief. **PAGE 24**

House OKs review of NMI's political union with the US

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

After a lengthy debate on the CNMI's 37-year political relation-

ship with the United States and federal control over local minimum wage, immigration and certain areas for military uses, the House of Representatives passed yesterday a bill creating a Second Marianas Political Status Commission that would examine "whether the people desire continuing in a political union" with America under the Covenant.

» Chamber also approves \$2 cigarette tax hike
» 2nd Marianas Political Status Commission proposal debated
» 9 bills, resolutions clear House in last session for 2013

The House also passed a health and revenue-generating bill that would increase cigarette tax in the CNMI by \$2 a pack.

These were two of the six bills passed and three resolutions adopted during the House's last session for

2013 that wrapped up at almost 5pm yesterday.

Of all the measures taken up, House Bill 18-112 House Draft 1, the Second Marianas Political Status Commission Act of 2013, drew the lengthiest debate.

"It doesn't hurt to re-examine, to know

See HOUSE on Page 4

Asians, Hispanics want relief from deportations

By HOPE YEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—With immigration legislation stalled in Congress, Hispanics and Asian-Americans say getting relief from deportations is more important for many of the 11 million immigrants here illegally than creating a pathway to U.S. citizenship, a new study finds.

Two polls released Thursday by the Pew Research Center expose a potential conflict for two minority groups that voted overwhelmingly last year for President Barack Obama, a Democrat. Obama is under pressure from immigration support-

See ASIANS on Page 4



FOR LEADING COPS IN SUING DPS FOR DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES

Justices: Deleon Guerrero deserves award of attorney's fees

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Supreme Court affirmed yesterday the trial court's decision to award attorney's fees to then-police sergeant and now Department of Public Safety Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero for bringing a lawsuit to protest DPS'

discriminatory practices in its promotion and hiring.

Associate Justice John A. Manglona, and justices pro tem Joseph N. Camacho and Herb D. Soll determined that because Deleon Guerrero satisfies the three criteria before a court may award a party attorney's fees under the private-attorney-general exception, they hold that

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman did not err by awarding Deleon Guerrero attorney's fees.

The justices said that under the application of private-attorney-general exception, the criteria are the suit has societal importance; requires private enforcement; and the number of people

See JUSTICES on Page 4

HEROIC DEED

Rep. Richard Seman (R-Saipan), second from right, reads a copy of House Resolution 18-50 that recognizes and commends Rie Matsuo, Daisuke Matsuo, Eva McKinney (represented by her employer), and Keith Leonard Longuski "for their heroic deed in saving the lives of Mr. John M. Seman and Mr. Richard M. Seman who nearly drowned while fishing at Laulau Beach," during a House session yesterday afternoon on Capital Hill. Looking on are House members, families, and colleagues of the survivors.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

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External audit issues 'clean opinion' on CPA's finances

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority was given a clean bill of health by an independent audit company, which issued an "unqualified" audit opinion for CPA covering fiscal year 2012.

Based on the newly released audit documents, CPA's combined operating revenue for airport and seaport operations increased by \$1.189 million in fiscal year 2012, a growth of about 6.9 percent.

From the \$17.227 million combined operating revenue recorded in fiscal year 2011, the next year showed CPA's income going up to \$18.416 million.

For the airport division, CPA saw an increase of 13.5 percent in revenue equivalent to \$1.475 million. This, after the division posted a total of \$12.350 million in fiscal 2012 compared to \$10.875 million in fiscal 2011.

Meantime, the seaport division saw a decrease of 4.8 percent in its operating revenue. Seaport revenue was at \$6.065 million in fiscal 2012 against \$6.3 million in 2011. This reflects a decline of \$287,291.

According to the audit report, the airport aviation revenue grew by \$879,297 because of increasing airport traffic. The airport division was in compliance with its bond indenture for fiscal 2012 and expects to remain in compliance with the agreement in 2013.

However, the seaport division shows a \$186,621 decline in seaport fees in fiscal 2012 due to a decrease in outbound revenue tonnage. Despite this, the seaport division was in compliance with its bond indenture agreements for fiscal 2012 and, like the airport division, it is also expected to remain compliance in fiscal 2013.

The demise of the CNMI's garment industry caused a per-

manent loss of this important revenue base, as reflected in the steep decline in seaport gross revenue tons. For the airport, revenue has risen due to an increase in passenger arrival and departure activities.

Based on the audit, air passenger departures increased by 25.7 percent and air passenger arrivals grew by 18.1 percent in fiscal year 2012.

That year, the number of deplaned passengers on three islands totaled 499,000, compared to fiscal 2011's 422,412; while enplaned passengers for the same fiscal year totaled 572,435 compared to FY 2011's 455,405.

CPA, it was reported, was also able to generate sufficient revenues for the airport to meet the bond ratio after the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration allowed the passenger facility charges to be considered as revenue for this purpose.

Meanwhile, CPA's combined operating expenses for both airport and seaport operations increased by 4.8 percent, or by \$650,228, from \$13.304 million in fiscal year 2011 to \$13.954 million in fiscal year 2012. This was due to increased utility charges, according to records.

"The CPA 2013 combined revenue forecast indicates a substantial increase of \$500,000—or about 3 percent from FY 2012. The airport aviation traffic for 2013 is forecasted to increase substantially due to new airlines serving the CNMI. The seaport gross revenue tons for FY 2013 is forecasted to be slightly less than the FY 2012 level. Overall, seaport revenues are projected to be about 7 percent less than the amounts in FY 2012," stated the audit report.

On internal control and compliance, the auditor indicated only three findings but no questioned costs.

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Senate poised to confirm judge, Labor chief nominees

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate is poised to confirm during its session on Rota

today Gov. Eloy S. Inos' Superior Court associate judge-appointee Teresa Kim-Tenorio, Labor secretary-nominee Edith DeLeon Guerrero, and

two other board nominees.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), chairman of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations, said yesterday that the panel recommended to the full Senate the confirmation of four governor's nominees.

Besides Kim-enorio and DeLeon Guerrero, the two other nominees up for Senate confirmation this afternoon are Roy Rios, who will serve another term as a member of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board, and Ignacio L. Perez, who will serve on the

Commonwealth Development Authority board representing Tinian.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that the governor will also be on Rota for the Senate session.

The nominees, especially Kim-Tenorio and DeLeon

Guerrero, received overwhelming support from community members during a Senate EAGI panel's public hearing on their nomination.

Once confirmed by the full Senate and sworn in, Kim-Tenorio would be the only woman in the Superior Court. Kim-Tenorio is currently legal counsel for Inos and when he was still lieutenant governor.

Charges dropped vs man accused of 'ice' trafficking, gun possession

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has dismissed the charges against a man accused of trafficking methamphetamine or "ice" and possessing a .25 caliber handgun and nine .22 caliber bullets.

Wiseman dismissed without prejudice on Wednesday the remaining charges of illegal possession of a firearm and illegal possession of ammunition against Yuanrong Zhao, a Chinese national, after assistant attorney general Brian Flaherty moved for the case's dismissal.

Dismissal without prejudice means the prosecution can refile the case in the future.

As no charges remained in the case, Wiseman granted assistant public defender Eden Schwartz's request to release her client, Zhao, without condition.

Flaherty told the court that the defendant had filed a motion to suppress evidence, challenging the search at his house that became the basis for charging him with illegal possession of a

firearm and illegal possession of ammunition.

Flaherty said the government no longer believes it can prove the two charges beyond reasonable doubt.

In Zhao's motion to suppress evidence, Schwartz said that on Aug. 16, 2013, police officers arrested Zhao at his home in Afetnas pursuant to an arrest warrant. Schwartz said police searched Zhao's house without a warrant and without his consent.

According to police, a .25 caliber handgun and nine .22 caliber bullets were seized at the house, among other items.

Schwartz said the court should dismiss the charges because the ban on simple possession of handguns and ammunition in the Commonwealth is unconstitutional.

The arrest warrant was issued because of Zhao's alleged involvement in selling "ice" worth \$200 to a "cooperating defendant" at Sugar Dock on Jan. 21, 2013. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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JUSTICES

From Page 1

that stands to benefit from the decision.

“Deleon Guerrero satisfies this high standard,” the justices said.

The private-attorney-general exception that Wiseman adopted as a basis for the award permits a court to order the losing party to pay the attorney’s fees of a private citizen who wins a lawsuit, if the three criteria are met.

Attorney Robert T. Torres, counsel for Deleon Guerrero and 25 other officers who intervened in the case, said yesterday that they took on the government to

emphasize a simple point—civil service employees are entitled to a fair, transparent, and objective process in promotions.

“What happened as to the leapfrogging by certain DPS officers was unfair and unacceptable,” Torres said.

Torres said the CNMI Supreme Court affirmed the principle that whenever appropriate, the private attorney general doctrine entitles those who “fight city hall” and win to have their fees paid in the costly pursuit of righting a wrong.

“The irony, as observed by the Supreme Court, is that the costs of injustice could have been easily avoided but for hu-

bris and disregard of the rules of fair play,” Torres said.

According to court records, having exhausted his administrative remedies, then Sgt. Deleon Guerrero, through Torres, filed the lawsuit with the Superior Court in 2009. Twenty-five other police officers joined Deleon Guerrero in the case.

In March 2012, Wiseman issued a judgment favorable to Deleon Guerrero in his lawsuit against DPS. Wiseman awarded him attorney’s fees and costs on grounds of his prosecution of a private-attorney-general action. The judge also ordered DPS to demote a Tinian police captain to sergeant.

DPS appealed, claiming that Wiseman erroneously awarded attorney’s fees for two reasons: the decision allegedly relied on a misunderstanding of fact; and wrongly rested on the private-attorney-general exception, which has not been adopted in the Commonwealth.

Deleon Guerrero cross-appealed. He argued that the Superior Court awarded attorney’s fees on not only the private-attorney-general exception but also the bad-faith exception, which has been adopted in the Commonwealth.

In the high court’s decision yesterday, the justices adopted the private-attorney general

exception and affirmed Wiseman’s application of that exception to this case.

The justices ruled that the lawsuit both promoted meritocratic hiring practices and challenged government malfeasance, both things of significant social value.

Had DPS addressed the complaint and rescinded the improper hires, Deleon Guerrero would not have needed to sue, the justices said.

“Instead, DPS’ silence drew Deleon Guerrero’s claim out for years, raising the cost. That cost outweighed the benefits to Deleon Guerrero, who had, at best, an uncertain chance of receiving

a promotion if his suit was successful,” the justices said.

The suit, they pointed out, benefits government employees because non-meritocratic hiring practices hurt morale; harm employees wrongly passed over for promotion; and increase the workload of employees who have to compensate for deficiencies in their under-qualified peers.

“The suit also benefits the community because non-meritocratic hiring leads to less-qualified staff and reduced incentives to do good work in pursuit of advancement, each of which contributes to a less effective police force,” the justices said.

ASIANS

From Page 1

ers to use his executive power to stop deportations.

Strong majorities of both Hispanics and Asian-Americans continue to back a pathway to citizenship, 89 percent and 72 percent, respectively. Still, by 55 percent to 35 percent, Hispanics said being able to live and work in the U.S. legally without the threat of deportation was more important. Among Asian-Americans, the ratio was 49 to 44 percent.

Among both groups, noncitizens are more apt than citizens to consider it important to re-

move the threat of deportation.

Not all Latino immigrants in the U.S. seek to become American citizens, according to the Pew study. Of Hispanic immigrants who came to the U.S. legally, just 44 percent have become citizens, due in part to the cost of applying as well as worries about passing the English part of the citizenship test. Among immigrants from Mexico, the largest country of origin, the share is even lower, at 36 percent.

“There’s no question that

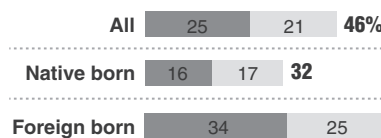
Hispanic views on deportation

A new survey shows a majority of Hispanics believe providing relief from deportation is more important for undocumented immigrants than providing a path to citizenship.

Deportation worries

• Regardless of your immigration status, how much do you worry that you or someone close to you could be deported?

■ A lot ■ Some

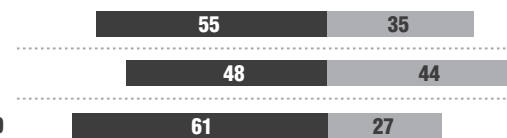


Source: Pew Research Center survey of 701 Hispanic adults, Oct. 16- Nov. 3, 2013; margin of error: +/-4.4 percentage points
Graphic: Judy Treible

Relief from deportation

• Which is more important to undocumented immigrants?

■ Living, working in U.S. legally without threat of deportation ■ Pathway to citizenship for those who meet requirements



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these groups want a pathway to citizenship for the unauthorized, but the surveys also show that, especially for Latinos, it’s the threat of deportation that

casts the longest shadow on their communities,” said Mark Hugo Lopez, Pew’s director of Hispanic research and author of the report.

Earlier this year, the Senate passed far-reaching immigration legislation that would strengthen border enforcement and allow a 13-year pathway to citizenship. But activity has stalled in the GOP-controlled House, with the citizenship provision a major sticking point.

The delay has put pressure on Obama to act, as he did last year in halting deportations for some young immigrants. Under his administration, deportations of immigrants in the

country illegally have hovered near 400,000 annually, with more than 9 in 10 of the deportees from Latin America. That level continues a trend of rising deportations that began during the George W. Bush administration.

Any action by Obama to halt deportations would mean that immigrants here illegally would in effect get interim legal relief; however, only action by Congress could give the immigrants legal status.

In recent weeks, 29 House Democrats urged Obama in a letter to suspend deportations; last month, “executive order” was the rallying cry of hecklers at an Obama Democratic fundraiser in San Francisco.

HOUSE

From Page 1

where the relationship lies. ... What’s the harm? What are we afraid of?” House Foreign and Federal Relations Committee chair Trenton Conner (Ind-Tinian) asked.

Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) believes the best vehicle to send the CNMI’s message is through Covenant Section 902 discussions.

But Rep. Richard Seman (R-Saipan) described a previous 902 discussion as “a joke.”

Of the 18 members present, 15 voted “yes” and three voted “no” to the bill. The bill passed at 4:13pm and is on its way to the Senate.

The bill’s author, Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro (R-Saipan), was absent, while Rep. Teresita Santos (R-Rota) had to leave the session early for medical reasons.

The three who voted against the bill were the speaker, vice speaker Frank Dela Cruz (Ind-Saipan), and Rep. Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan).

HB 18-112 seeks to create a Second Marianas Political Status Commission, which will have broad authority to review, study, examine, and conduct public political education and awareness to assist the commission in accomplishing its responsibilities as stated in the bill.

Specifically, the commission would examine the present political relationship between the Northern Marianas and the United States.

It would also determine whether the CNMI people are still in favor of continuing in “political union” with the U.S. pursuant to the Covenant, and whether or not they prefer some other political status options that would enable them to fulfill their hope and aspirations of full, meaningful, and a well-defined self-government status.

Under the bill, the governor has to reprogram money to fund the commission up to \$100,000.

At yesterday’s session, Sablan said he thought the political relationship between the CNMI and the U.S. under the Covenant is a “permanent” one, unless the parties mutually agree to change it.

“I ask members to reevaluate impacts of this bill. Do you have the necessary information to vote on such legislation?” the Ways and Means Committee chair asked.

House legal counsel Joe Tajeron said the political relationship is a permanent framework but not necessarily a permanent status, and seeking a different political status does not go against the Covenant.

The vice speaker, for his part, said this measure has been discussed at length in previous sessions and in previous legislatures, to fund a commission, at a time when the CNMI tries to make ends meet, help the people that lawmakers represent, and address problems with the Retirement Fund.

“We haven’t really done well in those areas. It started with the minimum wage taken over by

the U.S. federal government because we couldn’t do it. We used to have \$3.05 an hour minimum wage. Any attempts to raise it from \$3.05 was shot down because there was an interest to keep it low...” Dela Cruz said.

He said the same thing happened with local immigration, which the federal government now controls “because we couldn’t do it.”

“Even our local Retirement Fund. We had to get the U.S. federal court to fix it for us because we couldn’t do that too,” the vice speaker added.

He asked whether the CNMI being unable to do things for itself would be a reason to come up with a bill to create a commission that would reassess the islands’ relationship with the United States, “the most powerful country in the world.”

“This is a threat to the United States of America. I don’t know about you but I am content with the relationship with the United States,” he said.

Sablan also asked whether those supporting the bill have an “alternative.” He also noted that the commission will have to be funded up to \$100,000.

Conner, chairman of the bill that recommended the bill’s passage, said that just like any other relationship—be it between the U.S. and NMI or a husband and wife—it does not hurt to reexamine it.

He said this comes on the heels of the U.S. government’s plan to use Pagan for military activities, use Saipan for a U.S. Air Force divert airfield instead of Tinian

that the CNMI supports, the three northernmost islands for a marine monument and most recently, national immigration reform bills S. 744 and H.R. 15 that contain a provision granting a pathway to citizenship to long-term, legal aliens in the CNMI.

Conner said if S. 744 becomes law, for example, it would allow aliens in the CNMI to become permanent residents and, later, U.S. citizens and therefore can start voting.

He asked whether the federal government should be allowed to “come in and do it for us?”

“This is a relationship we need to examine, to know where the relationship is,” Conner added. “We might as well cover our eyes, blindfold ourselves, and let people from outside to do it for us.”

Conner also asked his colleagues to give the Second Political Status Commission a chance, adding that a funding of \$100,000 is a drop in the bucket given the commission’s task.

The speaker offered clarifications in Conner’s statement. He said the three northernmost islands are still under CNMI control and that “we’re one political family” so the term “people from outside” is not necessarily proper.

The speaker said that, in his view, Covenant Section 902 talks could be the best vehicle to discuss the political status between the U.S. and NMI.

Rep. Roman Benavente (Ind-Saipan) said, “If we don’t make noise, no one will listen.”

House floor leader Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan) said that relationship has to be reexam-

ined because up to now, people from the CNMI—even if they are U.S. citizens—still cannot vote for a U.S. president.

The Northern Marianas marked its 37-year political relationship with the United States on March 24. U.S. President Gerald Ford signed on March 24, 1976, a joint congressional resolution approving a mutually negotiated “Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States.” That also paved the way for Northern Marianas residents to become U.S. citizens.

\$2 cigarette tax hike

The House also passed at 4:16pm yesterday Demapan’s HB 18-118, increasing the CNMI cigarette tax by \$2 a pack.

The bill passed by a vote of 14-4.

The four “no” votes were from Reps. Antonio Benavente (Ind-Saipan), Roman Benavente, George Camacho (R-Saipan), and Sablan.

If a pack of cigarettes now costs \$3.75, this could go up to \$5.75 a pack once the bill becomes law. It’s now on its way to the Senate.

Others passed

The House also passed by a 19-0 vote at 3:32pm HB 18-132HD1, revising penalties relating to the Sales Receipts Act.

Also passed was HB 18-153, reducing the insurance requirement for shooting ranges from \$5 million to \$1 million because the latter is the maximum cover-

age that can be provided by local insurance companies.

The bill passed at 4:22pm by a vote of 16-2, with the “no” votes coming from Reps. Janet Maratita (Ind-Saipan) and Edmund Vilagomez (Cov-Saipan).

They also passed by a vote of 18-0 Senate Bill 18-29 HD1 at 4:33pm. The bill authorizes the use of 1 ½ mesh to catch bigeye scad or *atulai* during its seasonal run on Tinian.

By a vote of 18-0, the House also passed at 4:50pm a bill that requires mandatory drug testing for all law enforcement officers.

The House also adopted House Resolution 18-50, recognizing and commending Rie Matsuo, Daisuke Matsuo, Eva McKinney and Keith Leonard Longuski “for their heroic deed in saving the lives of Mr. John M. Seman and Mr. Richard M. Seman who nearly drowned while fishing at Laulau Beach.”

House members personally presented framed copies of the resolution to the four “heroes.”

The House also adopted HR 18-51, conveying sincerest condolences to the family of the late mayor Francisco M. Diaz.

Also adopted was Commemorative Resolution 18-6, expressing appreciation to Dr. David Longanecker, president of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, who was instrumental during Northern Marianas College’s successful efforts earlier this year to convince the U.S. Department of Education to continue Title IV funding for NMC’s bachelor’s degree program participants.

DPS warns against plan to block Saipan highway

It has come to the attention of the Department of Public Safety that certain individuals have intentions of blocking portions of Commonwealth highways in response to a civil matter with

the CNMI government. The blocking of the roadways is not only a hazard to motorists but also restricts the transit of motorists, impacting day-to-day operations. The blockages are

also hazardous to emergency vehicles needing to move freely about the island in case of emergency situations.

The Department of Public Safety would like to remind the

citizens of the Commonwealth that this type of action of blocking the roadway in anyway is a violation of the law.

9 CMC 5802(b) states: No person may throw any missile, circu-

lar, pamphlet or other materials at the occupants of any vehicle or throw or place any substance upon any public highway injurious or damaging to the public highway or to vehicles.

Law enforcement officers will direct individuals that have blocked the roadway to remove such blockage in accordance with the law. Failure to follow the specific order of the law enforcement officer will result in further violations, up to or including arrest. **(DPS)**

Enhanced US Armed Forces Memorial unveiled today

The Saipan Mayor's Office will formally present to the public today the improvements on the U.S. Armed Forces Memorial, which is located across Microl Toyota and in front of the Lim Building in Oleai.

While the obelisk-like white memorial and two World War II gun placements are still there, its

surroundings have been spruced up with a carefully manicured garden, a water wheel, and 10 flagpoles that fly the flags of the United States, the CNMI, Guam, Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Philippines, Japan, China, South Korea, and Russia.

Saipan Mayor Donald G.

Flores said his office has long planned to improve the memorial as part of its island beautification campaign.

He said funding had always been a problem but their prayers were answered when South Korean company P&A and its owner, Hong Hyun Kim, stepped up and offered to foot the bill for the entire project.

Flores said all additions to the memorial have symbolisms tied to them.

"We want to express our appreciation to visitors coming into the island by putting out their nations' flags. There are a total of 10 flags there. ... We also added that water wheel because the flowing of the water represents the flow of tourists to the CNMI," he said.

Flores' adviser, Henry Hofschneider, said the upkeep and maintenance of the memorial will be shared by the Saipan Mayor's Office and P&A.

"We have a memorandum of agreement with them where we will take care of the utilities and maintaining the grass. Repairs would be cost-shared where the Mayor's Office and P&A will take turns paying for repairs."

Hofschneider said he is happy that they were able to make improvements that everyone—both residents and tourists alike—will enjoy.

"The place was unkempt so we decided to chop the old flame tree and the old coconut tree there. ... The monument is still there and

the two artillery pieces are still there, albeit refurbished. It's a fresh look and maybe in 10 to 15 years we need to give it a different look again."

The new and improved U.S. Armed Forces Memorial will be "inaugurated" with a flag-raising ceremony at 9am this morning. Flores said that Gov. Eloy S. Inos and other government officials, including 12th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho, have been invited to attend the event. **(Mark Rabago)**

Man who used 3 minors to steal gets 21-day sentence

A man accused of using three minors to steal cash and items from a store in Chalan Kanoa has pleaded guilty and was slapped with a 21-day prison sentence.

Alexander Dueñas, 24, pleaded guilty on Wednesday to theft as part of a plea deal.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman sentenced him to a year in prison, all suspended except for 21 days, with credit for 21 days of time served. He was placed on supervised probation for three years.

Dueñas was required to pay a \$25 court assessment fee, probation fee to be assessed later, and \$300 in restitution to the owners of Bobby Market. In addition, he was ordered to perform 120 hours of community service.

The Office of the Attorney General had charged Dueñas with theft and conspiracy to

commit theft. The conspiracy charge was later dropped.

According to Chief Prosecutor Shelli Neal, Dueñas conspired with 18-year-old Flare Ngrutot and a minor to steal two digital cameras, cash, and other items from Bobby Market on July 21, 2013.

Neal said that Ngrutot stole a digital camera, \$20 cash, and a Playstation from the same store on July 21, 2013, and July 23, 2013.

A police detective stated in his report that Duenas and Ngrutot and three other juveniles stole two digital cameras, two Nintendo DS, and one PS Vita game—all worth \$1,594.98—and an undetermined amount of cash from Bobby Market.

Police said footage of the surveillance camera showed that one suspect would distract the store's cashier while the other suspects would steal the items. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

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\$25 surcharge per scuba dive customer up for reconsideration

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives adopted yesterday a Ways and Means Committee report recommending passage of a modified bill imposing an additional \$25 surcharge per customer availing of scuba dive services, to generate funds to buy, install, operate and maintain decompression chambers for government healthcare centers on Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

Other members said the \$25 fee is too much.

After discussion, the bill's author, Rep. Roman Benavente (Ind-Saipan), said he will

lower the \$25 fee.

Vice speaker Frank Dela Cruz (Ind-Saipan), who said the fee is "too steep," pointed out that the bill wants to charge scuba divers more, less than an hour after the House presented a resolution honoring four scuba divers who saved lives during the Thanksgiving season.

The committee report says it is necessary to equip government health centers with a decompression chamber for the safety of divers.

As tourist destinations, Saipan, Tinian and Rota offer beautiful dive sites.

But the committee also noted that in prior years, funds

were appropriated to buy decompression chambers, only for these funds to be reprogrammed for more urgent matters at the time.

Just the same, the committee underscored the need to have decompression chambers at the Commonwealth Health Center on Saipan, the Tinian Health Center and the Rota Health Center.

All treatments of patients requiring a decompression chamber are referred to Guam, the committee said.

The panel added that a decompression chamber can also be used for other medical patients with diabetes and cancer.

The Ways and Means Committee recommended passage of HB 18-72 in the form of House Draft 1, to ensure that funds will go toward buying decompression chambers and clarify the bill's intents.

Under HD1, all scuba dive shop operators and marine sports concessionaires shall impose an additional \$25 surcharge per customer "per week." The scuba dive operators and concessionaires are supposed to collect, document, and pay the fees collected to the Commonwealth Treasury every quarter.

Seventy-five percent of funds collected will go toward buying

decompression chambers, while the remaining 25 percent goes to the general fund.

Back in May when the bill was introduced, some dive operators were wary that the added \$25 fee will drive away their customers.

Some of them said if a tourist used to pay \$25 or \$50 for a scuba dive, he will have to pay \$50 or \$75 if the bill is signed into law.

There are also dive customers that pay \$1,000, for example, for a series of dives for days, and they too will have to pay an additional \$25. The impact is different between these two types of customers.

Woman allegedly attacks ex-boyfriend

A woman allegedly stormed the house of her former boyfriend, beat him up, and attacked him with a butcher knife in Chalan Kanoa Sunday night.

Darlene Palacios Halstead, 27, was arrested for assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. Her bail was set at \$10,000 cash.

Police detective Isapen Bokuku stated in her report that Halstead had gone to the house of her former boyfriend but the latter told her to leave as they are no longer together.

That's when Halstead allegedly attacked her former boyfriend, punching him several times in the body. She then allegedly grabbed a butcher knife from the sink and swung it at him. The former boyfriend ran out the front door and Halstead followed him outside. She went over to the clothesline and began cutting his uniforms and his other clothes that were there.

Halstead then went back inside the house and began yelling profanities.

The alleged victim told police that the attack started when Halstead accused him of having an affair with a woman who at the time had parked her vehicle across the street.

Halstead picked up a rock and was about to throw it at a vehicle belonging to the Tinian Liaison Office but he blocked her. He then told the woman to go because Halstead was out of control.

Halstead proceeded to his house where she allegedly beat him up and attacked him with the butcher knife.

The alleged victim said he felt scared because Halstead was "high" at that time.

It was a witness who called the police. (Ferdie de la Torre)



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SAIPAN

The Department of Public Safety's Traffic Section will be conducting three sobriety checkpoints today, Dec. 20, 2013.

■ 5:30pm to 6:45pm along Beach Road Susupe, in front of the Multi-Purpose Center, on the northbound lane.

■ 8:30pm to 9:45pm along Chalan Pale Arnold, Gualo Rai, in front of the St. Michael's Office, on the southbound lane.

■ 11:30pm to 12:45am along Beach Road, Chalan Lau Lau, adjacent to the late Dr. Benus-to Kaipat's residence, on the southbound lane.

TINIAN

■ Monday, Dec. 23, 2013, 6pm to 7:15pm along the southbound lane of Broadway Road by Housing Turnkey.

■ Monday, Dec. 23, 2013,

9pm to 10:15pm along the southbound lane of Broadway Road by the Youth Center in San Jose Village.

■ Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2013, 10pm to 11:15pm along the eastbound lane of Route 202 by Hung Shung Supermarket.

■ Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2013, 12am to 1:15am along the southbound lane of Broadway by the Youth Center.

■ Monday, Dec. 30, 2013, 8pm to 9:15pm along Broadway Road by Natibu Park.

■ Friday, Dec. 31, 2013, 10pm to 11:15pm on the eastbound lane by the baseball field.

ROTA

TUESDAY, DEC. 24, 2013

■ 6:30pm to 7:45pm along the San Francisco Highway, Chaliat area.

■ 9pm to 10:15pm along

the San Francisco Highway, Guata area.

■ 12am to 1:15pm along the San Francisco Highway, Tatachog area.

THURSDAY, DEC. 26, 2013

■ 6:30pm to 7:45pm along the San Francisco Highway, Teteto area.

■ 9pm to 10:15pm along the San Francisco Highway, Sinapalo 2 area.

■ 12am to 1:15am along the San Francisco Highway, Lotgan area.

SATURDAY, DEC. 28, 2013

■ 6:30pm to 7:45pm along the San Francisco Highway, Tatachog area.

■ 9pm to 10:15pm along the San Francisco Highway, Guata area.

■ 12am to 1:15am along the San Francisco Highway, Sinapalo 3 area.

TUESDAY, DEC. 31, 2013

■ 6:30pm to 7:45pm along the San Francisco Highway,

Sinapalo 3 area.

■ 9pm to 10:15pm along the San Francisco Highway, Chaliat area.

■ 12am to 1:15am along the San Francisco Highway, Tatachog area.

■ 2:30am to 3:45am along the San Francisco Highway, Lotgan area.

Each checkpoint will last at least 75 minutes (1 hour and 15 minutes). Checkpoints are subject to be terminated if it begins to rain. This activity is part of the department's effort to deter, detect and apprehend impaired drivers and to ensure that all vehicle occupants are protected.

In addition, traffic officers will be conducting highway criminal interdictions and laser (speed detection) enforcement.

For more information, contact Sgt. Jarrod T. Manglona or POI. Nathan A. Barcinas at (670) 532-9530 or 9433. **(DPS)**

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

December 20, 2005

Casino investors granted conditional license

The Tinian Gaming Casino Control Commission granted Bridge Investment Group last night, a conditional license to begin its 300-room hotel and casino resort project here. In a public hearing, the four commissioners, headed by chair William M. Cing, unanimously voted to grant the licensing application of the investors led by U.S. presidential appointee to the Asian American and Pacific Islander Advisory Commission Rudy Pamintuan. Pamintuan is joined by business partners Erick Wang and Rocky Li. Two other partners, Dr. Akshai Desai and Kenneth Wong, were not able to come to last night's public hearing.

RP cigarette maker ordered to pay \$1.9M

The Superior Court has found a Philippine cigarette manufacturer owned by beer and tobacco magnate Lucio Tan liable to pay \$1.9 million plus costs and fees to the CNMI government for not complying with local tobacco laws. Presiding Judge Robert Naraja ordered Tan's Fortune Tobacco Corp. to pay \$1,435,351.32 in civil penalties plus interest at the rate of nine percent per annum to the CNMI. Naraja directed Fortune Tobacco to establish within 15 days a "qualified escrow fund" and place into that fund \$267,085.61 and \$211,364.83 pertaining to the company's obligations for calendar years 2003 and 2004, respectively.

December 20, 2006

JNB, Heinz mend fences

With a handshake, former Gov. Juan N. Babauta and former House Speaker Heinz Hofschneider pledged on Monday to forget their past rivalry and rebuild the CNMI Republican Party. The pair, whose political rift cost GOP the 2005 election, showed up at Garapan Central Park Monday evening for the party's general membership meeting. They reaffirmed their commitment to the party and vowed to work together in the build-up for next year's midterm election. "I'm glad to see there's unity. This is our opportunity to strengthen the party. Our goal now is to win the midterm election and on to the general election. But first, the party has to regain the strength that it always had," Babauta said in an interview.

Biz sector upbeat on Beijing flights

The local business community is upbeat over the newly inaugurated Beijing flights, citing the significance of having a direct connection between the Commonwealth and China's capital. "Beijing is one of the oldest cities in the world. ... The honor and excitement that I have is also that we are here to bridge the Mariana Islands to this great place," said Saipan Chamber of Commerce president-elect Juan "Pan" Guerrero in his remarks during a media briefing in Beijing last weekend. He said the Chamber is working closely with the Marianas Visitors Authority "to help build on the relationship that the CNMI has been enjoying in terms of tourism and travel-related services."

December 20, 2007

Senate kills Saipan gaming bill

The Senate rejected the Saipan gaming bill yesterday, ending the administration's hope for a quick solution to declining government revenue. Eight Senate members voted against House Bill 15-322, which would have legalized certain gambling activities at the former La Fiesta shopping mall. Sen. Luis Crisostimo from Saipan was the only member to vote differently. He abstained. The Senate action was no surprise, as the members from Tinian and Rota previously voiced their opposition to the gaming proposal.

Cohen leaving DOI

The U.S. Interior Department's lead official for insular affairs will leave his post at the end of January 2008, Secretary Dirk Kempthorne announced yesterday. Deputy Assistant Secretary David B. Cohen has served the longest tenure at the U.S. Office of Insular Affairs. During his five and a half years at the helm of OIA, he was responsible for administering the federal government's relationship with its territories and for administering financial assistance to U.S. territories and freely associated states. "David has been a passionate advocate for the U.S.-affiliated islands," Kempthorne said in a statement. "His passion has rubbed off on me, and I have become personally committed to island issues. I wish I could have convinced David to stay until the end of the term." Cohen will return to California to practice law.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
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Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

Pope Francis is showing us the right way

By DARRYL LORENZO WELLINGTON
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Pope Francis has done us all a favor, whether we're Catholic or not. In this Christmas season, he has shown the way to a more humane society. He has certainly earned *Time* magazine's Person of the Year commendation.

In his first papal exhortation, he put most leaders in the Western world to shame with his heartfelt message lamenting international hunger and inequality.

"While the earnings of the minority are growing exponentially," lamented the pope, "so too is the gap separating the majority from the prosperity enjoyed by those happy few."

He pointed his finger directly at the free-market idolatry that is so prevalent in some Western circles.

"The imbalance is the result of ideologies which defend the absolute autonomy of the marketplace and financial speculation," he said. "The thirst for power and possessions knows no limits. In this system, which tends to devour everything that stands in the way of increased profits, whatever is fragile, like the environment, is defenseless before the interests of a deified market."

It was almost as though he were speaking directly to the Republican Party when he said it is wrong and unChristian to "continue to defend trickle-down theories which assume that economic growth, encouraged by a free market, will inevitably succeed in bringing about greater justice."

He also decried the callousness that has accompanied such theories. "A globalization of indifference has developed," he said. "Almost without being aware of it, we end up being incapable of feeling compassion at the outcry of the poor. The culture of prosperity deadens us; we are thrilled if the market offers us something new to purchase. In the meantime all those lives stunted for lack of opportunity seem a mere spectacle; they fail to move us."

Not surprisingly, Rush Limbaugh carped that Pope Francis was advocating "pure Marxism." Asked about this criticism a few days later, the pope gave a stunning response. "Marxist ide-

See POPE on next page

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What Edward Snowden started

Edward Snowden should be proud. Until this week, the National Security Agency could argue that its massive effort to collect every American's telephone records had been approved, at least tacitly, by all three branches of government.

The president was on board; the people running the program were his appointees. The House and Senate intelligence committees knew what was going on and chose not to stop it. And the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, which reviews NSA activities in secret, hadn't objected.

But now, thanks to Snowden's renegade disclosures, all three branches have decided that the routine federal collection of metadata—records of who calls whom, and when, but not the content of the calls—needs another hard look.

Congress is debating several proposals to rein in the program, including a bill that would effectively end it. President Obama is considering recommendations from his own advisors, including one to take the data away from the NSA and ask telephone companies to hold them instead. And, this week, a federal judge found that the program was probably unconstitutional—that it invaded citizens' privacy beyond what they had a right to expect.

"I cannot imagine a more indiscriminate and arbitrary invasion" of citizens' rights, District Judge Richard J. Leon wrote in a blistering opinion. "The author of our Constitution, James Madison ... would be aghast."

Until Snowden's disclosures, Leon wouldn't have had a chance to weigh in on the matter. Earlier challenges were thrown out of court because civil libertarian plaintiffs couldn't prove that the NSA was collecting data about them. Snowden's leaks forced the government to acknowledge what it has been doing since 2001, and opened the way to a battle in the U.S. appeals court, followed almost certainly by one before the Supreme Court.

Yes, for the record, Snowden went about his whistle-blowing the wrong way; officials say the damage he's done to U.S. security is real. As he sits in chilly Moscow requesting asylum from one country after another, he can consider that question at leisure. But golly, has he been effective.

Whether Snowden, other civil libertarians—and now, Leon—will prevail in higher courts is a different matter. The NSA's action in collecting everyone's phone records, however "indiscriminate and arbitrary," could still turn out to be constitutional.

The core question in the jurisprudence on surveillance is whether the government's actions violate what the Supreme Court has called "a reasonable expectation of privacy." But what exactly does that mean? One leading scholar of the Fourth Amendment, Orin Kerr of George Washington University, calls the standard "notoriously murky."

Kerr wrote this week that the metadata program might survive a Supreme Court test because the government doesn't look at ev-

By DOYLE MCMANUS

Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a columnist for The Los Angeles Times. Readers may send him email at doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com.



everyone's telephone records—only at those that might yield foreign intelligence information.

At the heart of the issue is a kind of riddle: When and where do we have a reasonable expectation of privacy? You probably think your email is private, but Google analyzes your metadata to decide what advertising you'd like to see. You might have thought the names and addresses on your love letters were private, but the U.S. Postal Service scans many letters' exteriors and keeps the records for 30 days. And now that we know the NSA has been collecting phone records, haven't we been put on notice that those records aren't private?

The NSA argues that the metadata program is legal thanks to a 1979 Supreme Court case, which held that telephone records aren't private because citizens share them with the telephone company.

But Leon ruled that times have changed. "People in 2013 have an entirely different relationship with phones than they did 34 years ago," he wrote. "Records that once would have revealed a few scattered tiles of information about a person now reveal an entire mosaic, a ... picture of the person's life."

At least one Supreme Court justice has sounded ready to hear that argument. In a ruling last year, Justice Sonia Sotomayor wrote that the 1979 standard merits a new look.

"This approach is ill-suited to the digital age, in which people reveal a great deal of information about themselves to third parties in the course of carrying out mundane tasks," Sotomayor wrote in a case involving whether police needed a warrant to place a GPS tracker on a criminal suspect's car.

Do Americans accept the disclosure to the government of every telephone number they've called in the last five years, which is what NSA has collected? In fact, we already have a kind of answer to that question: Americans are divided down the middle. In a Quinnipiac poll released in July, for example, 55 percent of respondents said the government's actions amounted to "too much intrusion into Americans' personal privacy," and 41 percent disagreed. But 50 percent said they supported the program, and only 44 percent said they opposed it. So putting the question up for a referendum, alas, wouldn't work.

That means it's up to Obama, Congress and the courts to find the right balance: rules that give the government the tools it needs to investigate terrorist threats, but not at the cost of our reasonable expectation of privacy. If only we knew what that was.

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Boot Sale

Saipan offers a spicy mix of languages, so I'm going to ponder some English grammar today. First of all I will admit that I don't worry much about grammar. It has limited relevance to my work, since I'd rather be reasonably clear than perfectly proper. After all, one can speak proper English and sound like a preening little twerp; wouldn't one agree? Yes, one would. And we are not amused.

But when it comes to cheap amusement, well, I'm your man. I'm sometimes on the hook to answer questions about English grammar, which, of course, brings out the delinquent in me. So here's a concept for us to vandalize today: plurals.

Earlier this week I saw a banner in a shoe store that said, "Boot Sale."

And I thought: You can't buy a boot at a boot sale.

Yes, you can buy boots (plural) at a boot sale, but nobody says "Boots Sale." Does this make sense to you? It doesn't make sense to me.

If you think this is just a frivolous lark, then read on, because I'll introduce some other capers that can, and do, confound just about everyone. Not that I've got anything against frivolous larks, by the way.

For now, though, we'll step back into this boot thing and into the wacky world of the "pair."

You buy boots in pairs because the items at issue come as a set of two, right?

Right. So I guess we can understand some slop in the singular vs. plural gears when it comes to pairs. You buy a pair of "boots" at the "boot" sale.

But how do we explain a pair of scissors? Or a pair of pliers? Or a pair of pants? Unlike a pair of boots, which is two boots, a pair of pants is just one item.

If we give this more thought than it's worth, we can consider that these things (scissors, pliers, pants) involve the integration of two complimentary and roughly identical components. For example, a pair of pants is comprised of sheaves for two legs.

But just wait a minute here. Shirts offer the same feature for arms, don't they? Yes, they do, but we don't count shirts in pairs.

So you "put on a shirt," but you don't "put on a pants." On the other hand, you can "put on pants," but you can't "put on shirt."

In either case, we're talking about a singular, indivisible garment here, but apparently during some ancient grammatical schism the shirt and the pants were marched into different camps.

This crazy plural vs. singular stuff is easy to mix up. Many a time I've heard foreigners say, for example, "Thank you for your attentions," or, "The healths is very important," or, "My family are five people."

Those statements strike me as perfectly sensible. I hear such stuff every day. It's usually good enough for any use in business or society that I can think of, short of ad copy or similarly demanding contexts. But normal, everyday life is not nearly this demanding, so there's no point in worrying too much about it.

Now let's roll into more challenging fare. Again, I'm not making any authoritative decrees here, I'm just offering cheap thrills as I illustrate how wacky this stuff can be.

Here's a word for you: "media." Now pick the correct sentence as you imagine a dozen reporters showing up at your office to cover your latest big success: (a) "The media is here," or (b) "The media are here."

I'd say that either way is perfectly acceptable nowadays. I usually go with the second choice out of habit.

Here's my logic: The word "media" is the plural of the word "medium." However, common usage doesn't seem too con-

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.



cerned with this distinction.

Want another example? OK, here you go: "data." So, here's another sentence to pick: (a) "The data is accurate," or, (b) "The data are accurate."

Again, I think we're safe with either flavor. I'll occasionally go with the first choice, since it seems to reflect the more common usage, but if I have to be on my best behavior I'll take the second choice.

On that note, my logic, akin to the media/medium gig, is that "data" is the plural of "datum," but that's a pretty fine point of trivia.

I first encountered the term "datum" in the Navy. We were hunting for a submarine. The position of the sub, once determined, was known as the "datum."

I don't recall seeing the term since then, but, hey, it's nice to add some tactical flair to this hum-drum grammar stuff, eh? I love the smell of datum in the air. It's the smell of victory.

And on that note we've prevailed in yet another skirmish with grammar. We win by not getting bogged down in its traps, as we sail by and take pot shots at it, heeding the strategic wisdom that good enough is, indeed, good enough.

Poverty of leadership: Must remove carcasses of dead policies

The impending deluge of increases in the cost of living would drown family pocketbooks in the filthy swamp of abject poverty. It simultaneously cuts household purchasing power far more significantly than meets the eye. The hardship intensifies as dystopia—where nothing works—devours the entire archipelago.

Retirees could add the cut of 25 percent in pension pay to increases in health premiums of some 45 percent next year, including a 45 percent increase in medication, food cost, power bills, etc. It's fandango time in 2014 as we wrestle with a huge increase in the cost of living.

But what's the culprit behind the deepening misery? At the top of the heap is the poverty of leadership. The exodus of about \$7 billion in foreign capital in recent past didn't spin out of thin air. It's the combined result of internal and external predatory policy decisions that robbed investors of the enthusiasm to tough it out for the duration. In the process, we grandly ignored the pioneering role and sacrifices of investors from the Land of the Rising Sun.

This arrogance was doubled up when the local government started "cherry picking" who comes in and who is kept at the front door. It may have been glossed by inexcusable historical ignorance. But the egregious decision didn't leave much room for our friends to reconsider thinking with their feet. They simply picked up their luggage and headed to jet ways returning home. Has there been any investment from Japan since 2005?

The net effect of cherry picking investors panned out into the eventual and complete plundering of the livelihood of the people Marianas-wide. Has the reunification of the Covenant and Republican enabled an organized development of governance? Or is the resignation of the former governor a major derailment of its suspect unity wandering aimlessly?

I felt wounded in that it is only through sure-footed investments could the resource-poor NMI regroup and move the needle forward. Japan is the most experienced country when dealing with investments beyond her borders. Appalling how we've instantly ignored the affinity we've had with our friends, jointly nurtured for decades before and after the war.

A lot of its largest investments are now headed to Singapore,

Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Australia, among others. The gain of these countries is our loss! We've failed to employ mindfulness as we dropped a major player on investments here since the late '60s.

As revenue generation headed Deep South, we found the inevitably prohibitive cost of fossil fuel forcing closure of a sizeable number of small businesses, the backbone of our community. Caught with our pants down, we piled up more taxes in the belief that more of it would exact more revenues. Nah! It exacted the complete opposite. With power bills skyrocketing plus more taxes, small businesses, especially marginal ones, had no other option but to put up shutters. They did and headed elsewhere where investment is conducive.

Imagine the complete inability to recoup some \$133 million in revenue losses. Imagine the larger task of reviving economic recovery via reinvestment after the exodus of some \$7 billion in foreign capital. Imagine rebuilding and mending the loss of trust in the NMI as an investment venue. The asymmetric economic shock remains hugely disorienting as fiscal contraction deepens.

Nothing decisive has been undertaken to fix the self-inflicted mess. With pervasive debts it becomes untenable domesticating spending or finding additional revenues to meet obligations. Why do we grandly refuse to remove the carcasses of dead and regressive policies? Therein lies the poverty of leadership!

Puerto Rico's fiscal mess

With a reported \$70 billion debt and "weakening liquidity, increasing reliance on external short-term debt, and constrained market access..." Moody's is ready to junk Puerto Rico's general obligation rating to Baa3. It's the company's lowest investment grade rating, according national columnist Mike Shedlock.

"These developments exacerbate the longstanding financial strain brought by the commonwealth's very high debt load and pension obligations, as well as its chronic budget deficits," wrote Shedlock.

The economic mess at home has prompted an exodus of Puerto Ricans (so far 138,000 of them) to the U.S. mainland.

"How did Puerto Rico get into trouble? The short answer is the same way as Detroit: loss of industry coupled with lavish pensions.

Lord in good faith?"

Far from clinging to the rigid and the doctrinaire, Pope Francis has returned to the compassionate Christ.

And in this season of giving, his words instruct us not only to provide for the poor but also to build a just economy.

Thank you, Pope Francis, for reminding us of the true spirit of Christmas.

Darryl Lorenzo Wellington is a writer for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with The Progressive magazine.

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



Job flight, high crime rates, and huge pension woes in Puerto Rico seem similar to the problems in Detroit. However, there is no constitutional provision that allows U.S. states and commonwealths to declare bankruptcy.

"Compounding the problem, Puerto Rico passed a massive set of tax hikes including corporate taxes, a broadened sales tax and a new gross receipts levy, hoping to get its budget under control. Given that tax hikes in the middle of a recession are about the worst possible choice, the situation is ominous.

"So how is Puerto Rico's debt going to be paid back? The answer is it won't. Although, bankruptcy is out of the question, nothing can stop a default except a bailout by the U.S. Given that handouts from this Republican Congress are unlikely, look for Puerto Rico to default."

About a third of its 3.7 million people rely on food stamps and some 41 percent of its working-age either have jobs or looking for one.

Both commonwealths ought to begin practicing the mea culpa and stiff genuflection. This would require a full dress rehearsal. I mean you have to look like some ragged beggar from Pennsylvania Avenue with hats out literally begging for donations, any donation!

■ ■ ■

The revelry of Christmas and New Year's would fill our hearts with joy. Let's remember our brothers and sisters in the Pearl of the Orient who are rebuilding their lives. Recovery is a poignant reminder of the wraths of destruction from a recent vicious storm. They're rebuilding slowly as they keep watchful eyes at the dawn of 2014 with hope that through divine providence they'd be able to see brighter tomorrows. Our prayers!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR**Pandora's Box dilemma**

I applaud Juan S. Tenorio's letter of Dec. 18 by opening Pandora's Box in which he mentions all the problems and the supporting details of shipping to Rota. I also applaud Mr. Frank M. Atalig for bravely putting in print the issues. It is what it is. God bless the CNMI.

JQ Atalig

Songsong Village, Rota

POPE

From Page 10

ology is wrong," he said. "But in my life I have known many Marxists who are good people, so I don't feel offended."

In reality, Pope Francis was echoing not the German philosopher but Christ himself.






And by being generous to those the church has often demonized, the pope has demonstrated the depths of Christian generosity.

In a remarkable display of compassion toward homosexuals, he said in July: "Who am I to judge them if they're seeking the

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲88 ▼77
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼76
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲88 ▼78
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲87 ▼80
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲87 ▼77
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲85 ▼78
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼79

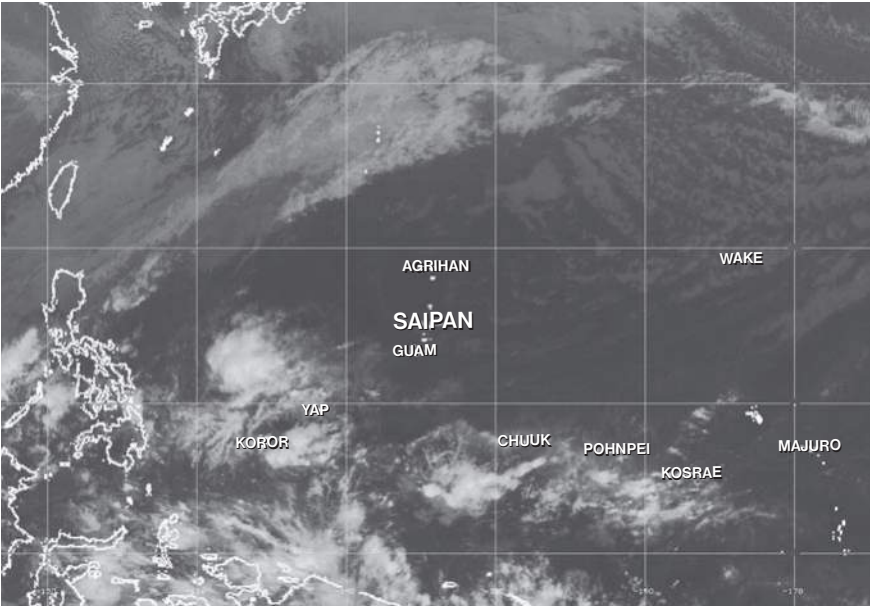
Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲72 ▼61
Beijing	Sunny	▲37 ▼16
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲61 ▼54
Honolulu	Sunny	▲81 ▼71
London	Mostly Sunny	▲48 ▼47
Los Angeles	Showers	▲57 ▼43
Manila	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼77
Melbourne	Sunny	▲83 ▼55
Miami	Sunny	▲79 ▼70
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲43 ▼36
Osaka	Windy	▲49 ▼42
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲48 ▼39
Pusan	Windy	▲49 ▼30
Rome	Showers	▲58 ▼44
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲40 ▼30
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲60 ▼41
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲33 ▼20
Tokyo	Showers	▲52 ▼41
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲54 ▼31

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
3:20 AM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.2 Feet
10:19 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
4:00 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
8:34 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2013

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward through 25N141E to beyond 130E at 18N. Extensive cloudiness and patchy rain are seen along and north of this boundary to beyond 25N. An old shear line meanders westward from 11N151E to 11N132E. Patchy clouds and scattered showers are present south of Guam, or along and up to 150 miles north of this boundary. Isolated thunderstorms are found along the western end between 132E and 137E. A weak cold front stretches southwestward through 20N180 to 15N172E, then continues as a shear line to end near 8N160E. Patchy clouds and scattered showers are seen along and up to 140 miles northwest of these boundaries east of 169E. A near-equatorial trough curves southeastward through 5N130E to EQ143E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:38 AM	5:51 PM
Saturday	6:38 AM	5:52 PM
Sunday	6:39 AM	5:52 PM
Monday	6:39 AM	5:53 PM
Tuesday	6:40 AM	5:54 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:15 PM	8:27 AM
Saturday	9:03 PM	9:09 AM
Sunday	9:51 PM	9:49 AM
Monday	10:39 PM	10:28 AM
Tuesday	11:27 PM	11:07 AM

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The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
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 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 2, 2013

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) UA5070 4:15am 5:05am Daily UA5068 8:40am 9:30am Daily UA5038 2:20pm 3:10pm 2, 3, 6 UA5078 6:05pm 6:55pm Daily UA5072 9:50pm 10:40pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA5069 2:45am 3:35am Daily UA5071 7:15am 8:05am Daily UA5039 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5077 4:45pm 5:35pm Daily UA5079 8:30pm 9:20pm Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP) UA5039 1:35pm 2:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) UA5038 12:10pm 12:45pm 2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) UA5039 2:40pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN UA5038 1:15pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR) DL287 6:05am 11:25pm 2, 6 via NRT	PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN DL298 4:35am 3:00pm 3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:05am 8:40am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 DL297 4:30pm 7:20pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL288 8:55pm 1:30am+1 1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 1, 4, 5, 7	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:00pm 1:50am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 D2102 2:20am 5:50am 3 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ6063 3:30am 7:20am 4, 7 D2104 2:00pm 5:30pm 6 OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN D2101 8:30am 2:00pm 3 OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm Daily D2103 7:30pm 1:00am+1 6 OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 OZ6053 9:10pm 2:30am+1 3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) MU764 4:10am 8:00am 1, 5	BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN MU763 7:55pm 3:10am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5070/191 4:15am 9:05am 3, 6 via GUM DL287/473 6:05am 10:30pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT UA5068/PR111 8:40am 4:45pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM UA5038/183 2:20pm 9:30pm 2 via GUM UA5078/183 6:05pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm Daily PR110/UA5072 7:35am 5:35pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM DL172/288 7:40am 1:30am+1 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT UA190/5079 10:00am 5:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA184/5071 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/5071 11:59pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:40am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5068/179 8:40am 10:35pm 1, 5 via GUM UA5038/179 2:20pm 10:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ604/749 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ724/605 1:50pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA180/5071 11:10pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 1750	17:50	18:20	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

CPA presses public domain for potential seaport expansion

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority wants easy access to two public lands it is eyeing for potential seaport expansion and is urging the Department of Public Lands to consider conveying those lots to CPA.

Executive director Mary-Ann Lizama disclosed that CPA wants to have authority on the center properties on Industrial Drive and the Able Dock, areas that are viable for seaport activities.

During Friday's board meeting, Lizama disclosed that a company has already been given a permit to use the area south and adjacent to Able Dock but the lease agreement has yet to be finalized. She did not specify the name of the company.

"[DPS Secretary Pete] Tenorio advised us that he will go back and take a look at the area that CPA has been asking for and will exclude it, or apply conditions to meet CPA's needs in the lease with the company that has the permit," Lizama told the board.

Another property in question is the Industrial Drive where Lizama also received similar assurances from Tenorio when the two met to discuss the issue.

"[For this area] I was advised

that DPL will look into the areas that CPA is asking for and agrees that the properties will prove useful for expanding port related activities. He advised that he will be meeting with the management after the holidays," she added.

Seaports facilities chair Benigno Sablan disclosed that CPA continues to dispute the permits/leases granted to these two companies because "CPA needs to maintain" the sites.

Sablan has directed the CPA management to communicate with DPL and perhaps ask to hold off the ground leases until CPA's requests are satisfied.

Sablan revealed that CPA has been sending feelers on these issues since previous DPL administrations, to no avail. "Hopefully, we can now sit down with the [new DPL secretary]," added Sablan.

According to CPA board acting chair Thomas Villagomez, the request for public domain on the two sites has been standing for about eight years now.

He said that it's about time for the ports authority to seek the assistance of the Legislature for the speedy resolution of the case. *Saipan Tribune* learned that anything above five hectares has to seek the governor's approval and the Legislature in granting public domain.

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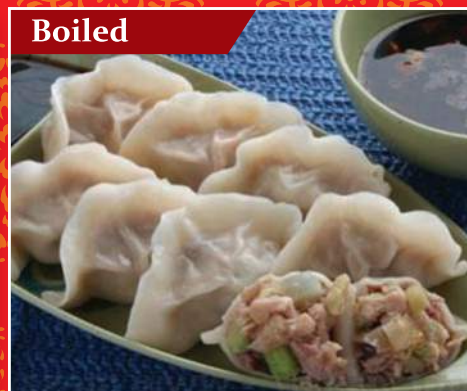
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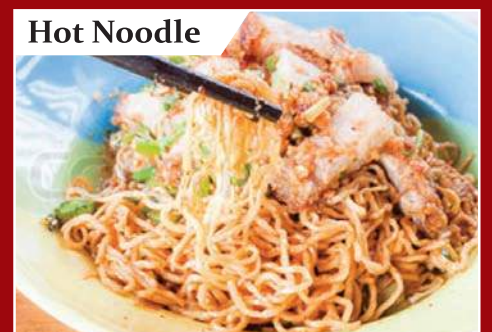
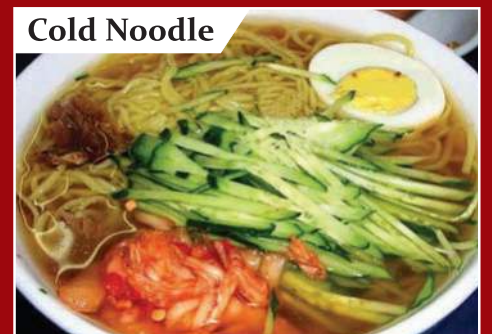


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...and many more!!!

NMC spring 2014 registration begins Jan. 13

Registration for the Northern Marianas College's upcoming spring 2014 semester will begin on Monday, Jan. 13, and run through Thursday, Jan. 16, 2014. Students can register on the day designated for their PowerCampus ID number during registration week. Late registration is on Friday, Jan. 17, 2014.

The deadline to apply for admission for the spring 2014 semester is Friday, Dec. 20, 2013. Applications for admission and other forms may be picked up at NMC's Office of Admissions & Records located in Building N at the NMC As Terlaje campus, or may be

downloaded from www.marianas.edu on the spring 2014 Registration Information page. Application forms submitted after Dec. 20 will be processed for the following semester.

Note that new students and returning students (those who did not take courses at NMC during the previous semester) are required to take the English and Math placement tests before they register. Students may schedule to take the placement tests by contacting acting testing coordinator Queanna Sablan, at 237-6774/6790 or visiting the Testing Center in Building I. Placement test dates may also be viewed on-

line at www.marianas.edu.

New and returning students are also required to attend a student orientation in order to register for courses. It is highly recommended that students confirm which orientation they will be attending by contacting the Sablan at 237-6774/6790 or emailing queanna.sablan@marianas.edu.

After taking the placement tests and attending student orientation, students can meet with their academic advisors, who will assist students complete registration forms and create class schedules. Students may register between 9am and 6pm Monday through Friday during

registration week.

Ongoing students must obtain registration clearance at the Finance Office, the NMC Library and/or Office of Admissions and Records before they can register for classes. To find out if any holds exist, students can visit the Office of Admissions and Records in Building N or call 237-6768/6769/6771.

NMC offers several degree programs, including a bachelor of science degree in education (emphasis on elementary education, early childhood education, special education, or rehabilitation and human services), associate degrees in

IMPORTANT DATES

■ Dec. 20, 2013: NMC spring 2014 admission application deadline (for new and returning students)

■ Jan. 2, 2014: Student orientation for new and returning students (3pm-5:30pm, Room D-1)

■ Jan. 8: Student orientation for new and returning students (6pm-8:30pm, Room D-1)

■ Jan. 9: Student orientation for new and returning students (9am-11:30am, Room D-1)

■ Jan. 10: Early registration for spring 2014 graduation candidates and students under Dis-

ability Support Services

■ 13: Registration for students with PowerCampus ID #s 000000138 through 000014370

■ Jan. 14: Registration for students with PowerCampus ID #s 000014371 through 000017530

■ Jan. 15: Registration for students with PowerCampus ID #s 000017531 through 000019617

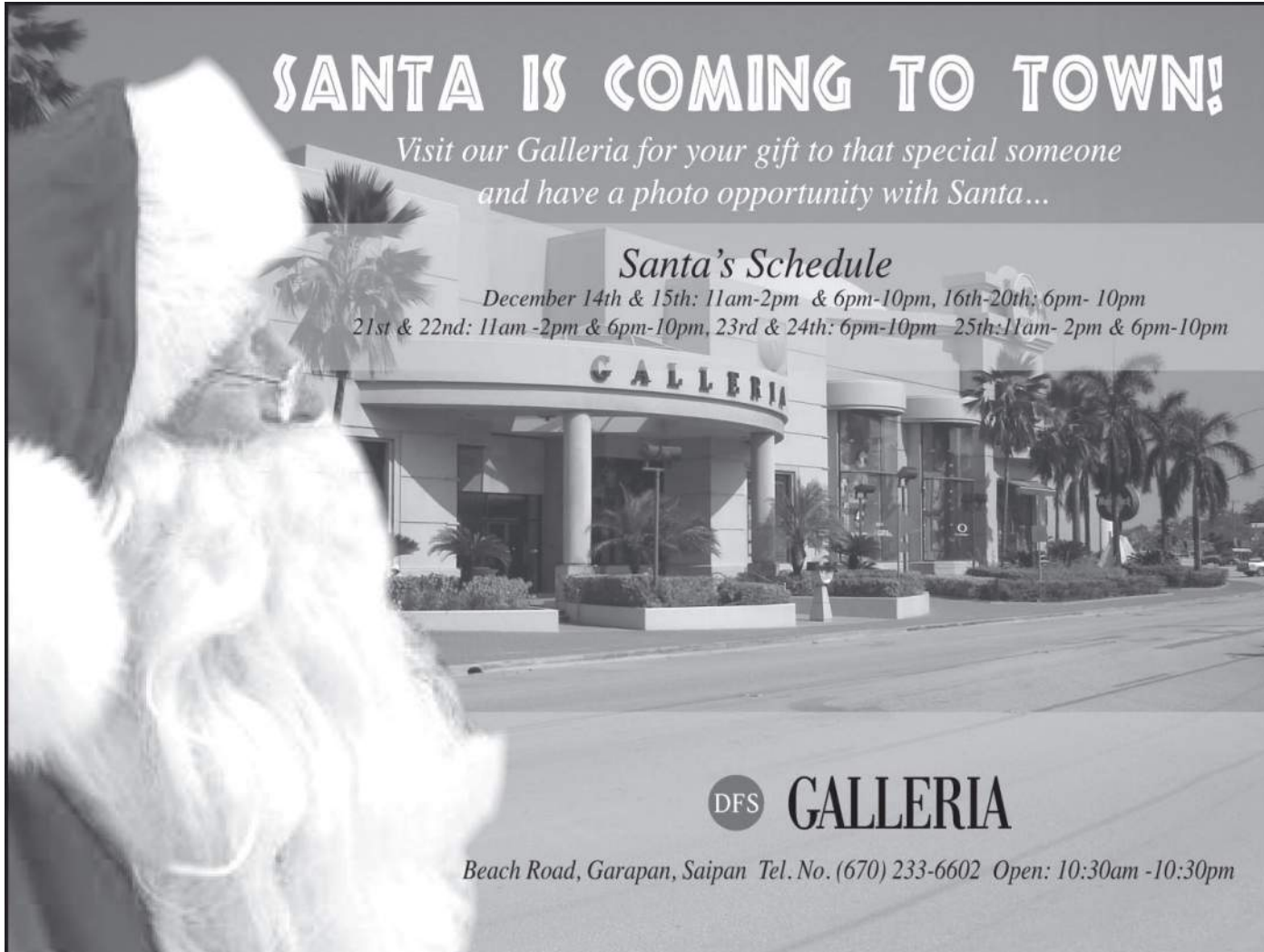
■ Jan. 16: Registration for new, re-admitted, and ongoing students and students with PowerCampus ID #s 000019618 or Higher

■ Jan. 17: Late registration

business, business administration (emphasis on accounting, business management, or computer applications), liberal arts, nursing, natural resources management, criminal justice, and hospitality management. Moreover, it offers short-term

certificate programs in different vocational, academic, and professional areas.

For additional information or inquiries, contact the Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6768/6769/6771 or visit www.marianas.edu. (NMC)



SANTA IS COMING TO TOWN!

Visit our Galleria for your gift to that special someone and have a photo opportunity with Santa...

Santa's Schedule

December 14th & 15th: 11am-2pm & 6pm-10pm, 16th-20th: 6pm-10pm
21st & 22nd: 11am-2pm & 6pm-10pm, 23rd & 24th: 6pm-10pm 25th: 11am-2pm & 6pm-10pm

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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan Tel. No. (670) 233-6602 Open: 10:30am -10:30pm



Homemade, gourmet pies delivered for a

Merry Christmas!

Our **Pumpkin Pies** are made with freshly roasted, local pumpkins – we frequent the farmer's markets for our ingredients.

Our **Apple Pies** are made with fresh Fuji and Granny Smith apples for that perfect balance of sweet and tart – no cornstarch added.

Pecan Pie is also available for \$18.

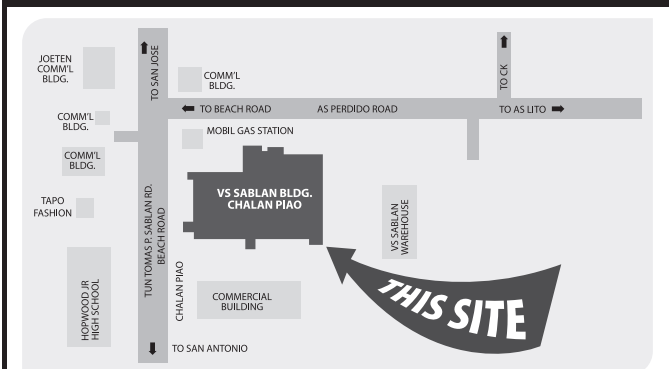
Pumpkin and Apple Pies are \$15,

which includes Delivery on Tuesday (Dec. 24) afternoon or Wednesday (Dec. 25) morning.

Sara Bakery

Please call Sarah at 287-1265 or email javabakerysaipan@gmail.com 24 hours in advance to order. Mention this ad for \$1 off each pie ordered.

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At **Our Chalan Piao Building, VSS PLAZA** we have rental space available on the **first floor** now at **65 cents per square foot** for units ranging from 541 sq. ft. to 1400 sq. ft.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS**PSS Distance Education registration now open**

CNMI PSS Distance Education Program would like to announce that online spring 2014 registration is open. Students can register at www.goo.gl/PYRHtj

Important dates (calendar is on www.goo.gl/fhqoC):

■ Last day to register is Jan. 8, 2014

■ Last day to withdraw is Jan. 24, 2014

■ Semester Starts Jan. 19, 2014

■ Semester Ends May 10, 2014

If you have any questions, email distance.education@cnmipss.org. (PSS)

1,649 unemployed registrants yet to complete résumé

The CNMI Department of Labor will be sending electronic notices to email addresses on record to all 1,649 individuals identified in the system as not having a complete résumé. A complete résumé online will allow you to electronically view, apply for job openings, and also allow employers to view your résumé and contact you. All individuals who receive such notices are encouraged to contact the CNMI Department of Labor, Division of Employment Services at 664-3190 or 322-0996 or go online at www.marianaslabor.net to access your account and complete the required information. (DOL)

Saipan beach red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged the Tanapag Meeting Hall beach on Saipan and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of this location for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from this location contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bac-

teria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainages every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

On this special day, we wish you all the very best, all the joy you can ever have and may you be blessed abundantly today, tomorrow, and the days to come! May you have a fantastic birthday, Ha'ane, Devin, and Ayden A. Manibusan! Greetings come from the family.

Happy 22nd birthday to my Samoan/Chamorro best sister friend, Joana Crystal Levi Norita! Hope your day is filled with lots of love and laughter! May all your birthday wishes come true. Blowing out another candle should mean that you have lived another year with joy and you've made this world a better place. Make every day of your life and every candle count. Have a delightful birthday! With lots of Love, GG, Mom and Dad (Penny and Joe Norita), friends and family.



Advanced happy 10th birthday to Karvin, who will celebrate his special day on Dec. 21! Wishing you a day filled with laughter, love, and fun times. Love, Mom



Happy birthday to the world's greatest mom, grandma and wife, Morendie Cruz Aguon! May your day be filled with lots of joy, happiness and blessing. We love you. Greetings from your kids, grandchildren and husband.

**AQUA RESORT CLUB SAIPAN Christmas Special****Christmas Eve Dinner Buffet**

December 24 (Tue)

Time: 18:00 to 21:30

@ Costa Terrace

Price: Adult \$30.00

Child \$15.00

Local Price Applicable with presentation of valid ID.

Come enjoy varieties of Christmas delicacies together with fresh seafood and bottomless beer with your love ones this Christmas Eve.

All you can eat Seafood & Christmas Delights

Bottomless Beer

Christmas Day Lunch Buffet

December 25 (Wed)

Time: 11:00AM to 14:00

@ Costa Terrace

Price: Adult \$17.00

Child \$10.00

Local Price Applicable with presentation of valid ID.

Come try our popular Japanese themed lunch buffet with a hint of Christmas Spirit.

Excellent Japanese Buffet Line-up with a hint of holiday spirit

Reservation:

Tel: 322-1234 ext. 731/732

Email: info@aquaresortsaipan.com

**Christmas Traditional Dinner**

December 25 (Wed)

Time: 18:00 to 21:30

@ Fine Dining Raraina

Price: Adult \$80.00

Child \$40.00

Local Price Applicable with presentation of valid ID.

Menu (Adult)
Amuse / Tartare of Smoked Salmon
Vichyssoise Glacée Paris soif
Apple stuffed with fish mousse Jacqueline
Certified Tenderloin Steak with Three Kinds Sauce
Salad Mélange / Crème Brûlée with Fruits
Coffee / Bread & Butter

Mouth watering French Course by ARC's Executive Chef

Menu (Child)
Cream Corn Soup
Mousse of fish with Sauce White, Fried Prawn,
Tenderloin Steak, Mashed Potato, Spaghetti,
Sugar Corn / Mini Omelet Rice with Salad
3 Kinds Ice Cream with Fruits / Bread & Butter

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Take your choice of the available 1.6L EcoBoost I-4 engine—which delivers 33 highway mpg, the best automatic highway fuel economy in its class or the available 2.0L EcoBoost I-4 engine. Compared to a standard port-injection engine, available EcoBoost® technology helps produce a cooler, denser fuel injection charge that generates more power per every drop of fuel.

2013 C L E A R A N C E

NISSAN	STOCK #	Color	Discount	FORD	STOCK #	Color	Discount	HONDA	STOCK #	Color	Discount			
Sentra S	DL7079	SOLD	Blue	\$3,000.00	Fiesta S	DM2224	SOLD	White	\$2,500.00	Fit Sport	DC0351	SOLD	Gray	\$2,500.00
Altima SV	DC2777	SOLD	Blue	\$3,000.00	Escape S	DUD463	SOLD	Blue	\$3,000.00	Fit Sport	DC0541	SOLD	Black	\$2,500.00
Altima S	DC105892	White	\$3,000.00	Escape S	DUD463	SOLD	Green	\$3,000.00	Civic LX	DH5598	SOLD	Brown	\$2,500.00	
Rogue SV	DW035	SOLD	Silver	\$2,000.00	F-150 XL	DFC307	SOLD	White	\$3,000.00	Civic LX	DE0507	SOLD	Gray	\$2,500.00
Frontier S 4WD	DN725699	Silver	\$3,000.00	E-150 XL Van	DDA57852	White	\$3,000.00	Civic Si Coupe	DH7024	SOLD	Orange	\$3,000.00		
Murano SL	DW211529	White	\$3,000.00	Transit Connect	DT173377	White	\$2,000.00	CR-V LX	DL0236	SOLD	White	\$3,000.00		
Xterra S 4WD	DN810750	Gray	\$3,000.00	KIA	STOCK #	Color	Discount	CR-V LX AWD	DL0212	SOLD	Brown	\$3,000.00		
Pathfinder S 4WD	DC676044	White	\$4,000.00	Sportage EX	D74858	SOLD	Blue	\$2,000.00	CR-V EX	DL0222	SOLD	Blue	\$3,000.00	
Maxima SV	DC8166	SOLD	Silver	\$4,000.00	Sportage EX	D74858	SOLD	Blue	\$2,000.00	Accord LX	DA2241	SOLD	Silver	\$3,000.00

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Former NMC student receives his officer commission

Former Northern Marianas College student Brandon Tudela Demapan recently received a commission for second lieutenant in the U.S. Army during a recent ceremony held at the Multi-Purpose Center.

During the ceremony, Demapan took the oath of office and received his appointment certificate from Lt. Colonel Jay A. Blakley, University of Guam Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps professor of Military Science. His parents, Antonio and Ignacia Demapan, took part in the ceremony by pinning his new insignia of rank while his wife Victoria presented him with his service cap.

As part of a tradition in the U.S. Army, Demapan presented a silver dollar to UoG Military Science Instructor Sergeant First Class Michael Techur for being the first enlisted soldier to

salute him as a second lieutenant. The coin symbolically acknowledges the receipt of respect due the new rank and position. The ceremony concluded with Demapan's recitation of the Soldier's Creed and an invocation by Chaplain Alvin Owens.

Earlier this year Demapan graduated from the University of Guam with a bachelor's degree in Health Science with a concentration in Exercise Science and Health Promotion, and an associate degree in Military Science. He also served as the S3 Operations Officer for the UoG Triton Warrior Battalion SROTC.

Before attending UoG, Demapan pursued both his postsecondary education at different institutions in between deployments and military training. After graduating from Kagman High School in 2005, he began

his college studies at Chaminade University in Honolulu and later enlisted in the Army Reserves as a combat medic with the 100 Battalion 442nd Infantry. After completing boot camp and additional training, he was deployed to the Philippines to serve in Operation Enduring Freedom 2007.

After deployment, Demapan returned to Saipan and enrolled in the Northern Marianas College's Elementary Education program. However, he was soon redeployed to Iraq for a year to serve in Operation Enduring Freedom 2008. He later returned to NMC to continue his studies and even worked for the CNMI Public School System in the Troop-to-Teacher program to assist students with special needs and at-risk youth.

In addition to his postsecondary achievements, Demapan



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Newly commissioned Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, Brandon Demapan, center, receives his appointment certificate from Lt. Col. Jay A. Blakley during a recent commissioning ceremony at the Multi-Purpose Center. At right is Capt. Robert John Sablan Reyes.

has completed various training programs through the military, such as the Leader's Development & Assessment Course at Joint Base Lewis-McCord in Washington. Last May he attended the Cultural Understanding and Language Program in Jakarta, Indonesia, where he was attached to Headquarters of Headquarters Company in

Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion 82nd Airborne Division.

Demapan has received a number of awards and decorations throughout the years including the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Ser-

vice Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, and Armed Forces Reserve Medal.

The newly commissioned Demapan is currently serving active duty in the U.S. Army and has been branched Quartermaster. He also plans to attend the Basic Officers Leaders Course B at Fort Lee, Virginia next year. (NMC)



JOB VACANCY

Be a part of NMTI today.

December 16, 2013 - Registration

December 30, 2013 - Job application deadline

January 6 to 10, 2014, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm - "Prepping for Success"

January 13, 2014 - Classes officially start

Full time

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Minimum of Master's Degree in Business Administration, Public Administration or Educational Leadership, plus minimum of 2 to 5 years experience in management or educational leadership

Administrative Assistant

High School diploma or equivalent required, some college preferred, plus 3 to 5 years administrative assistant experience

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Minimum of AA degree or 2 years diploma from culinary institute, plus at least 2 years culinary supervision or management experience

Hospitality Management Instructor

Minimum of AA degree in Hospitality or 2 years diploma from hotel school, plus at least 2 years experience in hospitality supervisory or management

Automotive Mechanic Instructor

Minimum of AA or 2 years diploma from trade school, plus at least 2 years experience as a lead mechanic

Construction Trades (Carpentry, masonry, plumbing, welding, electrical)

Minimum of AA or 2 years diploma or certificate from a trade school, NCCR certified preferred. Minimum 2 years in supervisory or management level in specific trades area

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OPEN HOUSE

December 20, 2013, 8 am - 5 pm

Do not miss the chance
to explore the NMTI campus.
Doors open to everyone.

Marg's Kitchen Holiday Sweets

Cake

Black Forest Cake, Devil Chocolate Cake, Carrot Cake, Velvet Cake, Marble Cake, Oreo Cake, Chocolate Cake, Coffee Butter Cream, Pina colada Cake, Mandarin Cake, Snow Cake, Angel Cake, Lantiyas

Pies

Pumpkin Pie, Lemon Pie, Man'ha Pie, Custard Pie, Coconut Custard Pie, Apple Crunch Pie, Apple Pie, Coconut Cream Pie, Chocolate Cream Pie

Cheesecake

Refrigerated Cheese Cake, Baked Cheese Cake, Creamy Cheese Cake

Rolls

Chocolate Rolls, Mocha Rolls, Pumpkin Rolls

Our Special
Price of
Christmas Cookies
\$8, \$15, \$18 and
Fruit Cake
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Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year!

Marg's Kitchen is located north of Mt. Carmel Cathedral.
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PACIFIC CENTURY FELLOWS

PROGRAM

Marianas Chapter

Be part of the solution. Become a Fellow.

The PCF Marianas Chapter is a non-profit, leadership development program that runs for one year incorporating periodic sessions covering current issues facing the CNMI.

Bright minds brought together can make a world of difference. With the challenges we face in our CNMI, there has never been a greater need for leaders to start working better together.

IMPORTANT DATES:

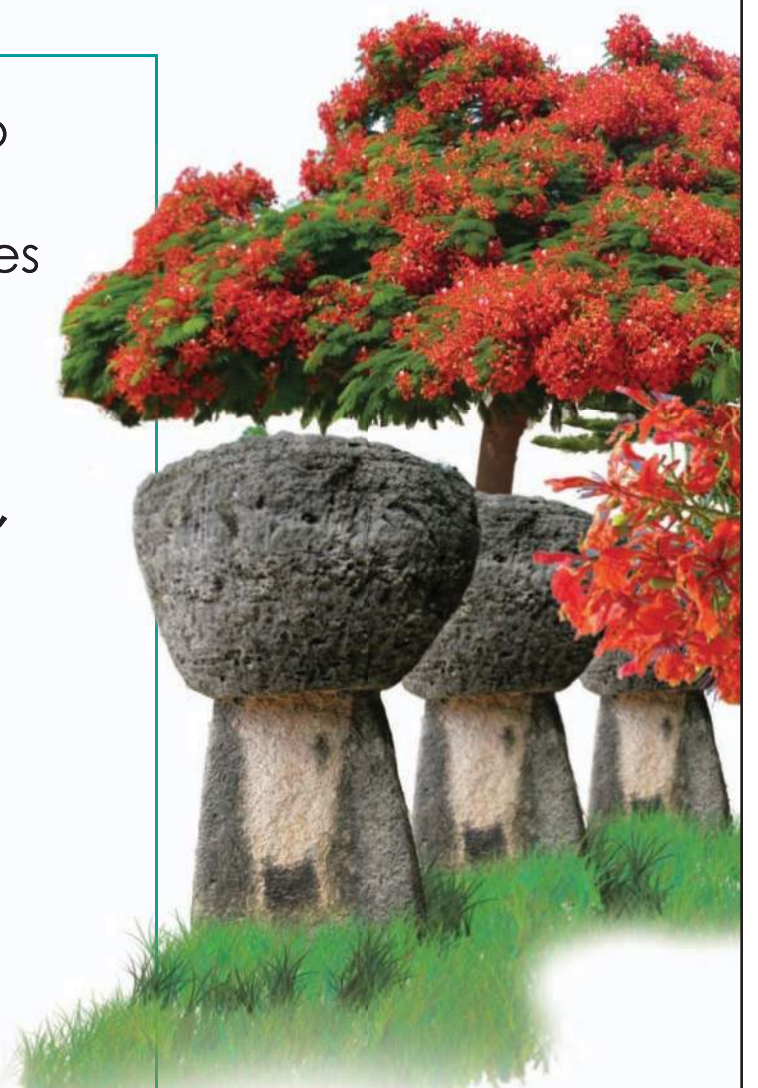
- December 31st: Application deadline
- January 11th: Selection Saturday (Mandatory)
- February 7-8th: Mandatory Weekend Retreat

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be between the ages of 25-45
- Submit completed application
- Provide two (2) letters of recommendation
- Must be able to attend weekend retreat and meet minimum attendance requirement.

A tuition fee is assessed following selection to cover fellowship expenses for the entire year. Financial assistance is available, see website for details.

To request an application or for more information, please visit our website at **www.pcf-marianas.com** or contact Maggie Sablan or Merlie Tolentino at 234-0609 ext 117/118 or send an email to administrator@pcf-marianas.com.



“Fellows will be in an environment that will foster open mindedness, creativity and constructive problem solving... Fellows will be better able to lead, not only in their respective industries, but in the bigger picture of the communities they serve and the islands in which they live.”

Season's Greetings

LISTEN AND ENJOY MUSIC BY OUR LOCAL ARTISTS

Christmas Music

Hofschneider Brothers
Man'Amko Christmas Album
Island Family Productions

Mart B. Ada

"Kantan Nino"
(Walter A. Manglona Production)
"Season's Greetings Here Again"
(John/Roselle Ichihara)
"Mafanagu si Jesus" (Cassette only)

And many more to choose from

Hofschneider Brothers	"Rekuetdon Familia... (Putfin!)"	Frank Guerrero	Loling
Edward Borja	Familia (Un Estoria)	Joseph Hocog Aldan	Adios Tang
Marianas Blend	Smile from the Heart (By: Ray Manahane and Leo Pangelinan)	Emilio	Hagu yan Guahu
David M. Cing	Marianas Trench (New Release) La Rasa Taga Riders	Frank M. Pangelinan "Bokonggo"	Cha Cha Medley Vol 2 Cha Cha Medley Vol. 6 Meena Cheluhu Vol. 8 Second Release
John A. Ichihara	Si Yu'us Ma'ase Asagua-hu	Ben Jones	Man Antes "Islas Para Ladrones"
Rick Mendiola	Kantan Gi Korason Hu	Candy Taman	Bonitan Flores
J.R. Reyes	Kuturan Chamorro		

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Drop by or give us a call at
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to choose your best selections. While Supplies Last.

The Staff and Management of

Tun Goru Snack Bar and Marg's Kitchen
would like to extend to each and everyone of you a

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!

Sunday talk show debuts on Magic KWAU 100.3 FM

Adding to the cultural landscape and diversity that makes the bustling Northern Marianas Archipelago truly rich and unique is a new Sunday talk show program airing live on Magic 100.3 FM each Sundays from 11am to 1pm, which debuted last Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013.

The program is called *Håfa Mohon Marianas!*, which means "what if," appropriately coined to elicit open dialogue and civil public discourse on any and all topics for any listener to participate in and contribute as a fellow resident who calls our Northern Marianas home.

Håfa Mohon Marianas! encourages constructive public discourse purely on issues and the actions (or inactions) of leaders and other influential individuals whose decisions and positions will likely impact our community. This notion is premised on the right of everyone to express his or her feelings. Every feedback is welcome because diversity of opinions and community input are the fundamental elements of a vibrant democracy in order to drive sound public policy and ensure a better quality of life.

The program is live on Sundays from 11am to 1pm, local Chamoru Standard Time in the Marianas. It would also be live streaming from 5pm to 7pm in the U.S. West Coast on Pacific Standard Time, 6pm to 8pm on Central Standard Time, and 7pm to 9pm in the U.S. East Coast on Eastern Standard Time.

Listeners can tune in and participate locally on digital radio station KWAU Magic 100.3 FM or live streaming on TuneIn or Streema smart phone app, or live Internet radio on www.magic100radio.com.

Listeners can participate through call-in, text-in, or e-mail-in. Email is hafamohomarianas@gmail.com; telephone line is 670-234-5929. Please contact us to join the discussions or to sponsor. (PR)

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Holiday Specials

MIDEA ENERGY SAVING SPLIT TYPE	WINDOW TYPE
13 Seers 9,000BTU Reg.: \$508 \$479⁹⁹ (110V, 60Hz, R410)	5,000BTU (110V, 60Hz, R410) \$149⁹⁹
12,000BTU Reg.: \$580 \$559⁹⁹ (110V, 60Hz, R410)	8,000BTU (110V, 60Hz, R410) \$200⁰⁰ or \$150⁰⁰
18,000BTU Reg.: \$790 \$769⁹⁹ (220V, 60Hz, R410)	FREEZER (110V, 60Hz, R134) \$359⁹⁹
24,000BTU Reg.: \$890 \$869⁹⁹ (220V, 60Hz, R410)	WASHING MACHINE \$345⁰⁰
	REFRIGERATOR (110V, 60Hz, R134) Reg.: \$299.99 Special Price: \$280⁰⁰
	WATER DISPENSER 5 Gallons \$125⁰⁰

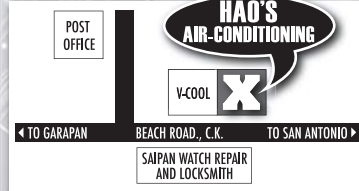
TWO YEARS WARRANTY ON PARTS AND LABOR, FREE BASIC INSTALLATION (SPLIT TYPE ONLY)

- MAIN MERCHANDISE:**
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 - Parts
 - Tools
 - Hardware
 - Washing Machine
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 - LED Items
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INVITATION TO BID ITB14-GOV-040

Garapan Water Quality Restoration Project Alternatives 2, 3 & 4

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lieutenant Governor Jude U. Hofschneider are soliciting sealed bids for the Construction of the Garapan Water Quality Restoration Project Alternatives 2, 3 & 4 – Garapan, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The work will involve removal of existing roadway, utilities, sidewalks, driveways, and miscellaneous structures and landscaping and the installation of a new drainage/infiltration system beneath the roadway, new curb and gutter, new driveways, new sidewalks, new roadway, new landscaping, and the construction of a new bioswale system.

The project package will be available Friday, December 20, 2013 at the Governor's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A \$100.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference for this project on Tuesday, January 7, 2014, 2:00PM ChST at the Governor's Conference Room, ground floor of the Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM ChST January 8, 2014 to Mr. Carl Castro, Contracting Officer's Technical Representative, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408. All responses to questions will be copied to other prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked "ITB14-GOV-040, Construction of the Garapan Water Quality Restoration Project Alternatives 2, 3 & 4". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 9:00 AM ChST Tuesday, January 21, 2014. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:00 AM ChST January 21, 2014, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than January 21, 2014 and must be received no later than January 29, 2014 ChST. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 AM ChST January 29, 2014. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 AM ChST January 21, 2014.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- Cash
- US Government Securities
- Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is Three Hundred (300) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) per day, or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by Three Hundred (300) calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF



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INVITATION TO BID ITB14-GOV-044

Repair/Replacement of the Mechanical Equipment Commonwealth Health Center, Saipan MP

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, are soliciting sealed bids for the Repairs/Replacement of Mechanical Equipment at the Commonwealth Health Center (CHC), Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available on December 23, 2013 at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A \$100.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference/Site Visit for this project at the project site on December 30, 2013, 10:00 a.m. ChST, at the Telemetry Room, CHC. Bidders are encouraged to visit the site to familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting their bid. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on January 06, 2014 to Ms. Elizabeth Balajadia, Project Manager for the Capital Improvement Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, Fax Number (670) 664-2408 or email: balajadiaelizabeth@hotmail.com Response to questions will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked "ITB14-GOV-044, Repair/Replacement of the Mechanical Equipment at the Commonwealth Health Center". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 9:30 AM ChST Tuesday, January 21, 2014. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:30 AM ChST January 21, 2014, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than January 21, 2014 and must be received no later than January 29, 2014 ChST. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 9:00 AM ChST January 30, 2014. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:30 AM ChST January 21, 2014.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid bond of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- Under penalty of perjury, a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P & S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- Cash
- US Government Securities
- Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is Three Hundred (300) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) per day, or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by Three Hundred (300) calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.



Message of Appreciation



As we enter the season of giving, we pause to show gratitude for our many blessings. We are grateful for the freedom to make choices, the opportunities to achieve great things, and the loving family and friends that surround us.

At the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence, we are especially grateful for the many voices that spoke out during Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) last October. Along with the members of the Family Violence Task Force, we thank YOU for joining your voices with ours to declare that we all deserve to live in a safe and loving community. Your contributions, partnership, and presence at our many events demonstrated the power of our community to "Create Peace, Teach Love, and Inspire Hope." We hope you will continue to speak out throughout this holiday season and the coming year.

We would like to give special thanks to the DVAM Planning Committee, the first responders, the direct service providers, and the courageous individuals who inspired us with their personal stories of survival.

Last, but not least, we would like to thank all of the amazing volunteers, donors, and partners for their tremendous support during DVAM. It would not have been possible without you!

Alex Olopai
Alfred Ocampo
Allie Sablan
Angel Falig
Angel Galvez
Angela Deleon Guerrero
Angelica Cruz
Attorney General JP San Nicolas
Augusta Famaw
Ayuda Network Inc.
Benylin Mettao
Blue Sky Supermarket
Bob Coldeen
Brenda Rideb
Calvani Deleon Guerrero
Celina Romolor-Route
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DPS Bike Patrol
DPS Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero
DPS SVIS Unit
Emi Williams
Emiliana Camacho
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ESFDB/Dare Program
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Flora Aguon
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Hon. Governor Eloy S. Inos
Hon. Judge Joseph N. Camacho
Hon. Judge Kenneth L. Govendo
Hon. Lieutenant Governor Jude U. Hofschneider
Jacqueline R. Route
Jen Tanaka
Jerome T. Aldan
Jessica Barcinas
Jesus is Lord Church
Jimmy Apatang
Joan Manzanares
Joe & Emma Villagomez
Joel Tagalicud
Joeten Shopping Center – Susupe
John Cruz
John L. Aguon
Jolly Ann Cruz
Jonathan Sanchez
Joseph Kevin Villagomez
Joyce Nimwes
Justice Norman
Kagman Market
Karidat Social Services
Kayla S. Igitol
Kennedy Benjamin
Keola Fitia
KKMP
Koblerville Youth Learning Center
Kyanna Tenorio
Lani Russell
Lawrence Hocog
Lillian Cepeda
Maira Arriola
Margieray Santos
Maria Atrero
Maria Olopai
Marianas High School JROTC Color Guard,
Dolphin Battalion
Marie San Nicolas
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Michael Manglona
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Sharlene Manglona (Rita Hocog Inos School)
Sharon San Nicolas
Shelli Neal
St. Joseph School
Tan Siu Lin Foundation
Tessa Diaz
Thailand Dancers
Therese Kintoki
Therese Tenorio
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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-14-006

CHALAN KIYA-KANAT TABLA WATERLINE CONNECTION (W12-022)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Chalan Kiya-Kanat Tabla Waterline Connection in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope-of-work consists of installation of new six (6) inch ductile iron distribution main connecting the Kanat Tabla booster pump through the existing Chalan Kiya water distribution main line. It also includes replacement and installation of various new valves, and water service lateral connections at designated areas within the Chalan Kiya Village.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **240 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

The Bid Tender Documents may be picked-up, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable); at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **December 24, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-14-006, Chalan Kiya-Kanat Tabla Waterline Connection, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on January 14, 2014**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on December 27, 2013** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., Manager, CUC Procurement & Supply Division via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Christi Lazaro, Engineer, CUC Water-Wastewater Division via email christi.lazaro@cucgov.org and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Administrative Support Assistant, CUC Procurement & Supply Division via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-14-003

Completion of Installation of a New 500,000 Gal. Diesel Fuel Tank at Power Plant No.1, Saipan

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals (Request for Proposals - RFP) from qualified and experienced Tank erection / installation firms for correction of existing defects, assembly, installation and commissioning a new Above Ground Oil Storage Tank (AST), as per the specifications contained in the proposal document and monitored through a construction management firm and a third party quality control firm, contracted by CUC. The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) and the United States District Court entered into a Stipulated Order Number Two (SO No. 2) for Preliminary Injunctive Relief under Civil Case No. CV 08-0051 (Section 1.1). The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) filed the civil action seeking injunctive relief under the Clean Water Act (CWA), and the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This work shall satisfy the requirement in Section IV, Oil Spill Prevention and Preparedness, Paragraphs # 28 Tank System Integrity Testing Workplan and Implementation for CUC Power plants 1 and 2 and Integrity Inspection Program.

The Saipan Power plant is located in the Lower Base Industrial Area near the Saipan Seaport, in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). The foundation, tank and accessories have been designed by a US based company and the tank assembly kit was supplied to Saipan port by the same company, United Industries Group, CA (UIG) for installation by a local contractor. The previous construction contractor has been terminated due to default and performance issues while the metal work and welding work was in progress. The project is currently in a partially finished state.

The purpose of this RFP is to ensure the CUC is to ensure that the new tank is built to the codes and standards to which it was originally designed, including the corrections necessary, details of which have been described in the RFP and meets the stringent tests and inspections noted therein. Upon being awarded the contract and receiving the Notice to Proceed (NTP), the contractor will complete the correction as provided in the RFP. Following schedules shall be noted by all vendors:

- Contract Award - **February 6, 2014**
- Notice to proceed / site mobilization - **February 13, 2014**
- Tank completion - **July 8, 2014**

The Scope-of-Work and Proposal package will be emailed, upon request, to all interested proposers, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working days, from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM local time, until **December 18, 2013**.

A mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference followed by a site visit is scheduled at the Saipan CUC Power Plant 1, administration building on **December 18, 2013 at 10:00 AM**, to ensure that the contractors are fully aware of the work involved and familiarize with the site conditions. All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the plant site conditions in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or performance of work under the contract.

One (1) Original and Six (6) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-14-003 - REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL - Completion of Installation of a New 500,000 Gal. Diesel Fuel Tank at Power Plant No.1, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **December 31, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Upon award of the contract the Offeror is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page - <http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm>. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

A Proposal Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposal. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code, with the proposal.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00am (ChST) on December 20, 2013**, to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., Purchasing Officer via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Petroleum and Compliance Manager, Mr. Andrew Longworth at andrew.longworth@cucgov.org.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the interest of the government.

CHARLES WARREN
Acting Executive Director

Barcinas, David join OAG



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Heather Pinaula Barcinas and George Fleming David join the Office of the Attorney General as assistant attorney general and investigator respectively.

The Office of the Attorney General recently welcomed Heather Pinaula Barcinas as assistant attorney general and George Fleming David as an investigator.

This will mark Barcinas' second tenure with the OAG as she had previously worked as a paralegal at the office for five years. In addition to her paralegal undertaking, she was a certified grants writer. Barcinas also served as the Family Courts coordinator at the Family Court Division of the CNMI Judiciary. She holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and Public Administration from the University of Guam and a Juris Doctorate from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, Michigan. Barcinas is licensed to practice before all CNMI courts.

"I am excited and happy to be back at the AG's Office," stated Barcinas.

David brings with him a wealth of knowledge in law enforcement. He began his career as a police officer with the De-

partment of Public Safety and ended his 10-year term with the department serving as an investigator. David served as a police officer for the Naval Base in Guam and most previously, as a Federal Court security officer with the U.S. Marshals Services. David completed the 16th Police Academy Basic Training Cycle, in addition to receiving extensive training from the Asia-Pacific Canine, Sacramento Police Department, and the Family Violence Task Force. With the passion and drive he has for the area of investigative work, he declares "I'm excited and eager to be back in the investigation field." His goals are that of "cleaning up corruption and keeping the island safe."

"On behalf of the entire office, I welcome Heather and George to the Attorney General's Office. I wish them all the best in their careers at the AG's Office," said Attorney General Joey P. San Nicolas. (*Office of the Governor*)

Fr. Jesse Reyes is now pastor of San Jose Parish on Tinian

By THOMAS A. MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Fr. Jesse Reyes officially became the pastor of the San Jose Parish on Tinian last Sunday. Reyes, 42, comes to his new call from San Jose Parish on Saipan. After nearly five years of serving as parish administrator, the congregation is excited about Reyes' promotion to serve as pastor for the neighboring island.

Fr. Ryan Jimenez, apostolic administrator for the Diocese of the Chalan Kanoa, attended the installation ceremony and explained that, according to the law of the church, holding the position as pastor gives Reyes "the full care of souls."

"Being a pastor is more of a permanent appointment than a parish administrator," Jimenez added.

Reyes, however, considers the promotion as "just a title" and vows to continue to spread the Word to the people of Tinian.

In his few years of working on Saipan, Reyes has been involved in several government and community organizations such as being the official chaplain for the Department of Adult Correctional Facility and the spiritual chaplain for Divine Mercy.

Reyes stressed that his main goal is to improve youth involvement in the church by having more parish retreats and camps. "I look forward to improving the youth situation here on Tinian and to as much as possible gather the youth on a regular basis."

Tinian San Jose Parish member Rita Borja shared that Reyes has already been involved in community events and religious family gatherings just days after his appointment.

"He is very involved in the community already and I am excited to see how he impacts the community even more in the days to come," she said.

Municipal council honors Kinpanchi Restaurant owner

Longtime businesswoman Misako Kamata was honored last Monday after the 12th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council presented the Kinpanchi Restaurant owner with a commemorative resolution, recognizing her and the company's more than three decades of serving the local community.

"Kamata is a long-serving businesswoman here on Saipan. Kinpanchi Restaurant has been here 33 years and it has really contributed to the community, especially to the youth through her PDM Promotions, Inc. and the Saipan Awaodori Team," said council chair Ramon B. Camacho in an interview with the *Saipan Tribune*.

Camacho said Kamata sets the standard for business involvement in the local community with her many projects.

"The council is very honored to present this resolution because this is what we really need here in the community. I believe businesses should link up with the community because without the community a business will not be successful. So these two have to partner up," said Camacho.

He said that Kamata is proof that not all businesses exist just to make profit. "It's obvious that she's done all these things for the sake of the community. It's all for a good cause. This is a perfect model for business, helping



MARK RABAGO

Kinpanchi Restaurant owner Misako Kamata, second from left, accepts a commemorative resolution from 12th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho last Monday. Also in photo are council vice chair Antonia M. Tudela, left, councilman Diego L. Kaipat.

the community and I'm looking forward to other businesses to doing the same because we all need to work together."

Camacho was joined at the presentation at Kinpanchi Restaurant by council vice chair Antonia M. Tudela, councilman Diego L. Kaipat, and two other council staff.

Kamata said she found out that the council will be honoring her and her business while on vacation in her native Japan.

"I'm very surprised and very

happy but very humbled because this honor is very unexpected," she said.

Kamata followed the pioneering footsteps of her father, the late Yoshio Kamata, who established the landmark Garapan restaurant on Sept. 15, 1980.

Misako Kamata eventually took over the business seven years later in 1987, transforming it into one of the longest-running Japanese restaurant on Saipan, serving authentic Japanese family cuisine and catering to tourists and local patrons alike.

ists and local patrons alike.

Kamata also established PDM Promoters, Inc. in December 2005, a non-profit corporation, as a means of "giving back" to the Saipan community.

Since its inception, PDM Promoters has sponsored the annual Christmas Green Recycled Tree event at Paseo de Marianas as well as the "My Holiday Greetings to our Visitors."

The latter is the precursor to the Japanese-styled welcoming of the New Year—Mochitsuki

Festival—an event PDM has sponsored for the last four years.

PDM Promoters has also organized and sponsored the formation of Saipan Awaodori Team. Now in its sixth year of performing on Saipan, the group also had stints in Japan at the Koenji Awa-

odori Festival in tandem with the Tokyo Tensuiren group.

In addition, PDM Promoters has also spearheaded the past four years the Garapan Tourist District Cleanup on the first or second Saturday of the month. *(Mark Rabago)*

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on **December 23**, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before **December 23**.

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE

You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than **December 23**. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service, Please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or Visit any IT&E CS Center nearest you.



To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:

SHELL Service Stations — up to 4:00pm
Chalan Lamlau — up to 6:00pm
Tinian/Rota Office — up to 4:30pm
TSL Plaza — up to 6:00pm
Online payment — up to 9:00pm



UNITED STATES Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES



NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities is hereby gives notice that it will hold its 4th Quarter General Membership Meeting on Monday, December 30, 2013, from 9:30am – 1:30pm at the Napu Room, Pacific Islands Club - Saipan.

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- IV. ADOPTION OF MINUTES – September 26, 2013
- V. ACTION ITEMS
 - a. Approval of Renewal of MOA between CDD and CAMI
 - b. Approval of Proposed FY 2014 Budget of Commonwealth Respite Services Program (CRSP)
 - c. Approval of Proposed FY 2014 Budget for DD Basic Grant – partial award
 - d. Approval of Proposed FY 2014 Budget for AT Program Grant – partial award
- VI. REPORT
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Executive Director
 - c. Fiscal Committee Chairperson
 - d. State Plan Committee Chairperson
- VII. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. VOAD Conference
 - b. NDEAM Activities
 - c. Commonwealth Respite Services Program (CRSP) Rules and Regulations Update
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. AD Hoc Committee Update
 - b. CNMI Job Fair
- IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- X. MISCELLANEOUS
- XI. NEXT MEETING
- XII. ADJOURNMENT

Note: Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 13(a) 7, the Council may vote to meet in Executive Session. In accordance to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting and require special accommodations are requested to call the Council 5 days in advance at 664-7000. The Public is welcome to submit written or 3 minutes oral comments regarding the agenda above.

/s/ Thomas J. Camacho
Chairman

This ad was paid for by funds from the DD Basic Grant Part A (Administrative)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Wakin's Bldg., Gualo Rai, Tel. 234-7145/7146/6293/6245
Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR BOND TRUSTEE SERVICES 2013-CDA-07-RFP Friday, December 6, 2013

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 3, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider through the Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA), are soliciting proposals for bond trustee services.

The original and six (6) copies of a proposal must be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m., Chamorro Standard Time (Chst) on Thursday, December 26, 2013. No proposals will be accepted after that date and time. Proposals shall be in sealed envelopes marked "Proposal for Bond Trustee Services" and delivered to the attention of:

Mr. Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement and Supply (P&S)
Department of Finance
Government of the Northern Mariana Islands
Lower Base
Saipan, MP 96950

Copies of the RFP package may be obtained from the CDA office, CDA Building in San Jose, Saipan. Electronic copies of the Proposal will not be accepted. The CDA reserves the right to reject any proposal that in its sole determination is not in the best interest of the CNMI Government.

/s/ Manuel A. Sablan
CDA Executive Director

/s/Herman S. Sablan
Director, P&S

UMDA distributes \$250,000 in corporate earnings

United Micronesia Development Association board chair Jose "Joe" R. Lifofoi took the opportunity at the recently concluded 19th Micronesian Chief Executives Summit on Saipan to distribute \$250,000 in corporate earnings to the leaders whose governments have stocks in the company.

"It is both a pleasure and an honor to provide a return to our long-time friends and partners in this unique long term venture that spans the Micronesian region and blends both public and private sector interests," Lifofoi said.

The board chair told the chief executives that UMDA is once again in the process of refocus-

ing its development efforts, and is counting on the considerable experience of two new board members to assist in that process: former senator Alan Seid of the Republic of Palau and business leader Juan S. Tenorio of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Lifofoi pointed out that both men have decades of experience in private business and strong community involvement in their respective island states. Seid also has long service in the Olbiil Era Kelulau, Palau's congress, and Tenorio was the chair of the CNMI's Commonwealth Development Authority for many years, demonstrating their ability



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Newly appointed UMDA director Juan S. Tenorio, left, board chair Jose "Joe" R. Lifofoi, Clarence T. Tenorio, and new director Alan Seid, right, present a check for \$250,000 in capital distribution funds to CNMI Gov. Eloy Inos, center, at the recently concluded 19th Micronesia Chief Executives Summit on Saipan. O

to serve effectively in the public sector, the UMDA leader said.

"As a private and public venture, UMDA will benefit from

their experience in both sectors and across the Micronesian region, complimenting the current board members we are fortunate to have on the UMDA board," Lifofoi said.

UMDA was founded in 1966 in the then capital of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Saipan, as the joint venture between individual shareholders and regional governments. It has been involved in a host of economic development activities since then, from retail stores

to airlines, cable television, communications, and property acquisition and real estate development. The company is perhaps best known for its historic participation in Air Micronesia and Marianas Cablevision, but more recently, UMDA has played a major role in large Saipan properties such as the former Hotel Nikko Saipan in the village of San Roque and Laulau Development, the scenic golf course set above LauLau Bay. (UMDA)



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950

Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 03-2013

Opening date: December 17, 2013

Closing date: January 3, 2014

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

Position: (1) Accountant-I (Saipan)
(1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I (Tinian)
(1) Vessel Traffic Controller-I (Port of Saipan)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents is no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, January 3, 2014.**

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing. For more information, please contact the CPA Human Resources by email at rita.omar@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/ MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950

Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY PROCUREMENT, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF TWO (2) ENERGY EFFICIENT COMMERCIAL AIR CONDITIONING CONDENSING UNITS PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-005-14

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) invites submission of proposals from qualified individuals or firms to furnish, deliver, and install two (2) Energy Efficient Commercial Air Conditioning Condensing Units at the Port of Saipan, Seaport Building.

The proposal package will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning December 13, 2013.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement, Delivery of Two (2) Energy Efficient Commercial Air Conditioning Condensing Units, Project no. CPA-RFP-005-14."

One (1) original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m., LOCAL TIME, January 10, 2014, to the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport. Proposals submitted by facsimile transmission will not be accepted. Any proposals received after the proposal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for; (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement project would not be in the best interest of CPA. The CPA further reserves that right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This Request for Proposals shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MARYANN Q. LIZAMA
Executive Director

LAW OFFICES OF S. JOSHUA BERGER
D'TORRES BUILDING. GARAPAN
P.O. Box 504340
SAIPAN, MP 96950
Phone (670) 235-8060 Fax 235-8070

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES
CORPORATION,

Plaintiff,
v.

ANTONIO TUDELA TORRES (Deceased)
and CONSOLACION DLC. TORRES,

Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 12-0028

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to the Writ of Execution and Order After Hearing issued by the Court in this matter on November 20, 2013, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right and interests of Defendant in and to the following real property:

Lot No. 1760-A-1, located in Chalan Kiya, Saipan, CNMI.

- 1. Date, Time and Place of Sale.** The sale is open to the general public (including the Defendant or a representative), and will be held on **Thursday, December 26, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m. at the entrance to the Law Offices of S. Joshua Berger, D'Torres Building, Garapan, CNMI.** Registration for the auction sale will begin at 1:15 p.m.
- 2. Change of Terms and Conditions.** The undersigned reserves the right to change the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, before the auction date and time or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, will be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 18th day of December, 2013.

/s/ Micheline W. Brel
MICHELINE W. BREL, Auctioneer
Tel: (670) 235-8060
Fax: (670) 235-8070
E-mail: michbrel@hotmail.com



PUBLIC NOTICE

"Dennis Pacheco is no longer connected with Philpan International Corp. dba Marianas Ice & Water. The company will not honor any liability committed by this person through misrepresentation and unauthorized use of the company's name"



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone)

For Saipan Surfrider LLC
(Surfrider Resort Spa and Beach Club)

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map. Saipan Surfrider LLC is requesting to rezone lots 012 H 20; 008 H 32; and 008 H 29 from "Village Commercial" to "Tourist Resort" for hotel and commercial space development. These areas are located north of the former Pacific Gardenia Hotel and east of Sandy Beach Homes in Chalan Kanoa.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: Friday, December 27th, 2013
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Office conference room, 2nd floor, Joeten Dandan Bldg.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, December 26, 2013. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

'Surcharge' eyed to fund terminated PMIC contract

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In its proposal to increase the electric base rate of power customers, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. disclosed that also factored in the equation is a

DEQ guidelines for hiring pest control applicators

The Division of Environmental Quality wants the community to be mindful of health and safety regulations when procuring the services of professional exterminators or pest control applicators.

A pesticide is any substance used to control pests. Pests may be target insects, vegetation, fungi, etc. Most control the pests by poisoning them. Unfortunately, pesticides can be poisonous to humans; some are very poisonous, or toxic, and may seriously injure or even kill humans. Others are relatively non-toxic.

Pesticides can irritate the skin, eyes, nose, or mouth. The most important thing to remember is that you should always use caution whenever you work with any pesticide!

Homeowner advisory

For those building a home or commercial building, DEQ reminds you that prior to conducting pesticide treatment on concrete structure or building foundation projects, there is some information you should be aware of, including obtaining a permit to apply pesticides for pre- or post-construction projects.

Only a professional pest control applicator can perform the structural treatment. The applicator must be trained and licensed. "Your family's health and safety may be compromised if the company or applicator is not permitted, licensed, or certified," said Reina Camacho, manager for the Pesticide and Storage Tank Branch at DEQ.

In selecting a professional termite or pest control company, residents can call DEQ to verify the permit status of these applicators. Camacho said residents can also inquire if operators or applicators of a particular company are licensed and certified.

"This is important, because the application of pesticides and other chemicals must be performed or supervised by a certified pesticide applicator. A company's track record and appropriate insurance are other factors to consider when selecting a professional," she said.

Pesticide applicators operating on Saipan are Advance X Terminators, No Ka Oi Termite & Pest Control, Pacific Daiken Corp., and Western Pest Control.

DEQ also recommends that homeowners:

- hold a pre-application meeting with the hired company

surcharge to pay for the balance that is owed an independent power producer whose contract with CUC was terminated over a year ago.

CUC and the commission's consultant, Georgetown Consulting Services, endorsed for

the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's approval the implementation of what they call "infrastructure investment surcharge," which will be solely used to pay Pacific Marine Industrial Corp., whose contract the utilities firm bought out in 2012.

PMIC is the independent power producer that previously handled and operated the Power Plant 4.

In June 2012, CUC entered into an agreement with the company to terminate their power purchase agreement that costs CUC \$3.972 million annually. The contract was originally scheduled to end on Aug. 31, 2016. This contract buyout was initially assessed to save CUC ratepayers over \$5 million.

Documents obtained show that from July 2012 to December 2014, the payments under the buyout agreement totaled \$341,000 every month.

In papers filed with the CPUC on Dec. 6, it states: "CUC and GCG agree that in order to fund the termination payments for fiscal year 2014, a surcharge should be implemented in this case, which has been determined to be \$4.1 million divided by the projected kWh of 198,607,454 resulting in a surcharge of \$0.021 per kWh."

It was also agreed that the surcharge, once approved by CPUC, should be in effect for 12 months.

"This surcharge is included in the overall recommended rate relief of \$2.8 million," CUC and

Georgetown state in their Dec. 6 joint stipulation.

CUC defines a regulatory surcharge as a fee on a customer's bill for specific purposes such as surcharges to recover extraordinary costs related to a storm; self-insurance surcharges to provide for specific reserves; or fuel recovery surcharges to recover large expenses.

Infrastructure study

CUC also plans to commission a study, called "Electric Distribution Infrastructure Study," to assess the additional investments CUC needs.

"It is anticipated that the proposed electric distribution infrastructure study and recommendations will be completed by September 2014," stated CUC.

Georgetown and CUC agree that additional infrastructure funding could be implemented through an infrastructure investment surcharge. Under the schedule and process to be set by the hearing examiner, proposals for such a surcharge will be developed and presented to the CPUC for review and approval before fall of 2014.

CPUC is expected to conduct its rate hearing within the month or early January to decide on several proposals endorsed by the CPUC, in agreement with the commission consultant. Among these proposals is the recommended increase in base rate, the standby charge for large power customers, revision of the residential bloc rate, net metering, and others.

Death & Funeral Announcement

†Dolores Manglona Diaz

of Marpo Heights, Tinian
Born to Life on January 2, 1962, and was
called to Eternal Rest on December 15, 2013,
at the age of 51.

In her new life, she now joins her:

Parents: †Juana Manglona Pangelinan
†Vicente Santos Sablan

Sisters: †Anuncia Pangelinan Cabrera
†Juana San Nicolas Manglona
†Edwina Manglona Fakir

Mother In Law: †Antonia Atalig Diaz

Her memories will live in the hearts of her:

Husband: John-David Atalig Diaz

Children & Spouses:
Ryan-Dave Manglona Diaz and Tessa Espartero Diaz
Jonathan Manglona Diaz
Natasha Diaz Pascua and Leonardo S. Pascua Jr.

Grandchildren:
Nichole Ashley Espartero Diaz
Ryana Espartero Diaz
Stephanie Espartero Diaz
Tara-Lynn Diaz Pascua
Tyrell Jordan Diaz Pascua
LeoNa Diaz Pascua
Tonia Josefa Diaz Pascua
Avriana Borja Diaz
Ethan John Borja Diaz

Parents In Law: Leonardo Flores Diaz and Julie Diaz

Brothers, Sisters, and In Laws:
Francisco T. Cabrera
Agnes Pangelinan Cabrera and Juan Cabrera
Rainaldo Manglona Pangelinan and Gina Pangelinan
Maria Pangelinan Fitzgerald and Mike Fitzgerald
Francisco Hocog
Conrad M. Sablan and Mary Ann Sablan
Rita Manglona Daniels and Leenorge Daniels
Vicente M. Sablan and Zita Sablan
†Shamim Fakir
Ramona Manglona Aquiningoc and Ignacio Aquiningoc
Nora Manglona Aquino and Felipe Aquino
Marian Pacita Diaz Iriarte and Joaquin Iriarte Jr.
Abraham Lenny Atalig Diaz and Elizabeth Diaz
Eleanor Dorothy Diaz and Vicente Palacios Dela Cruz
Romeo Fabian Atalig Diaz and Maria Babauta Diaz
Benedict Atalig Diaz and Connie Lynn Diaz
Claudine Diaz Nangauta and Teddy Leon Guerrero Nangauta
Magdalena Marie Diaz Sarmiento and Dawn Sarmiento

She is additionally survived by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, godchildren, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Nightly rosary is being prayed at Tinian San Jose Parish Church at 7:45 p.m.

On Monday, December 23, 2013, her remains will be escorted from Tinian Health Center to San Jose Church at 7:30 a.m.

Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 10:00 a.m. Interment service will follow immediately at the San Jose Public Cemetery.

*Please join us in prayers.
We extend our sincere gratitude to our many families and friends who have given us support in our time of grief. Thank you.*

The Family



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan World Resort general manager Hyung Cho Kim, A&G director Jake Park, and human resources manager Miriam Seman present the \$12,250 check donation of the hotel and its staff to victims of Typhoon Haiyan last Wednesday.

World Resort donates \$12K for Haiyan relief

A day after donating \$10,000 to the Public School System, Saipan World Resort last Wednesday cut another check for \$12,250, this time for the victims of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines.

The donation represents money raised by the Susupe hotel's own employees and donation made by World Resort's corporate office in South Korea.

Saipan World Resort gen-

eral manager Hyung Cho Kim and A&G director Jake Park personally handed the check to United Filipino Organization members led by president Annamae Adaza.

"It's a donation that we worked out together with the employees of Saipan World Resort and the management. Initially we were planning on giving it to the Philippine Consulate General in Guam but un-

fortunately they couldn't make it this December. So I decided it would be best to just give it to the United Filipino Organization and let them work through the consulate," said World Resort human resources manager Miriam Seman.

She said that \$2,250 of the total amount was raised by World Resort staff during a monthlong fundraising campaign that started on Nov. 15. The remaining

\$10,000 was donated by World Resort's mother company in South Korea.

World Resort local sales manager Mike Babauta said he couldn't help but be emotional about the company's donation to Haiyan victims.

"For myself this is kind of emotional because my wife is from the Philippines as well. The company came to me and the general manager asked

what Miriam and I can do so we came out with the idea of a fundraising campaign," said Babauta. "Everybody's so happy about this. We started collecting by asking employees for donations. There was 50 cents here and a dollar there and it all added up. The \$10,000 came from corporate office in South Korea. The corporate office also really wanted to do something to help."

Adaza thanked World Resort for the very generous donation. "I'm so happy and very grateful that World Resort coursed the donation through us. This donation will be endorsed to the Philippine Consulate General in Guam. We're just acting as a bridge. It just goes to show that the whole management and staff of World Resort trusts UFO." (Mark Rabago)

REGAL CINEMAS

Bargain Shows (I) ★ Pass/Discount Restrictions Apply
REFILLABLE POPCORN BUCKET \$3 REFILLS ALL YEAR LONG!

SAIPAN MEGAPLEX 7

Near Joeten Superstore in San Jose IMP

1-800-FANDANGO 1484#

Call Theatre For Showtimes



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The United Filipinos Association in Tinian members and their families pose for a group shot during Christmas Party held last Dec. 15 at Kammer Beach.

UniFil hold first Christmas party since revival

The United Filipinos Association in Tinian held its Christmas Party on Dec. 15 at Kammer Beach, the organization's first Christmas party since the organization was revived in late June this year.

UniFil president Rodney Cabarles said that UniFil treasurer Tess Sanchez was able to

solicit prizes that include cash, in-kind prizes, and gift certificates for the games.

Sanchez thanked the following vendors and sponsors for their generosity: Long Feng Store, Huang Shun Store, Lucky Quiang Store, Tinian Ice & Water, 3K's Store, Island Store, JC Café, Johnson's Air-condition-

ing, Slake Beauty Salon, SM Mart, Salon de Manila, Mercy Snack Mobile, Keridas Restaurant, Susan's Creations, and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider.

UniFil secretary Liz Hofschneider was the emcee of the program.

"It was indeed a fun day for all of us. I would like to extend

my appreciation to all the officers and members who contributed food and their resources to the success of the party, especially Ms. Vina Hofschneider from the Mayor's Office, Mr. Rodel Valiente, and his volunteers," said Cabarles.

The UniFil president said he will be on a monthlong vaca-

tion in the Philippines and will bring with him the \$2,253.28 cashiers check donation for Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) victims. He will turn it over to ABS-CBN's Sagip Kapamilya Foundation.

Cabarles is also appealing to the Tinian community to support the cockfight fundraiser on Dec. 28, which also aims also to benefit the Yolanda victims. (Mark Rabago)

MHS inducts 27 into National Honor Society

» Kilili to students: 'Be brave, dream'

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Twenty-seven Marianas High School students were inducted into the school's chapter of the National Honor Society on Tuesday at the Kanoa Resort and received their official certificates of acceptance from school principal Cherlyn Cabrera, MHS faculty, and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP).

"I honestly was not expecting to be in NHS this year," said sophomore John Peter Gella. "But I am grateful and happy that I am officially a member of this organization. I vow to help the community, provide service, and uphold scholarship."

Fellow inductees Maria Theresa Dizon and Scarlet Chen expressed the same sentiments.

Chen, a sophomore, was also shocked to learn that she was accepted into the prestigious organization. "I was very happy when I officially took the oath. It does not end here and we have a lot of work to do. I hope others are inspired by us," she said.

"I was scared when applying to be in this organization and when I got accepted I felt happy and confident about myself," said Dizon. "This organization brings motivated people together who share the same inspiration and ideas to better serve our school and community."

Barbara Sher, author of 10 books and a member of the PSS Special Education Department, delivered the night's keynote



THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

A total of 27 Marianas High School students raise their right hand and recite the oath of office that makes them official members of the NHS.



THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

Current National Honor Society members and officers pose for a photo with the Marianas High School administration, faculty and staff, and guests.

address. Sher shared her personal story of moving to Saipan to work as an occupational therapist and how teamwork was key to her success in life and achieving happiness.

"If you enjoy your life, that is the biggest success of all," Sher

told the high school inductees.

Sablan, himself an MHS alumnus, urged the students to "be brave and dream" during his inspirational remarks.

"There is great potential in this room," he said. "The community and nation need you to develop

that potential to the max."

Sablan reminded the inductees that joining the National Honor Society is a commitment to service and urged students to look ahead into the future.

"When you choose to work, choose a job that you can do

with passion and never go for the safe and secure path. Take risks because we need leaders with new talent and thinking. ...I know that you can be those leaders," he added.

Leo Pangelinan, dean of Student Services at the Northern Marianas College, was also present and congratulated the inductees on their acceptance. Pangelinan emphasized the organization's pillar of character. "Character is not something you can master now. It is something you will develop in your life time."

NHS president Jonavelle Cuervo thanked the parents, school faculty and staff, and the distinguished guests for participating in the ceremony and supporting the inductees.

Loraine Catienza, NHS adviser, MHS alumna, and former NHS president, told Saipan Tribune that despite the many financial difficulties the organization has faced, the students

never fail to rise above adversity and make things possible.

The 27 inductees are composed of sophomore and junior students: Edna Nisola, John Peter Gella, Alexandria Vergara, Kristine Batac, Yoneil Maniacop, Ryan Edquiba, Solomon Ko, Scarlet Chen, Masrur Alam, Teisha Camacho, Jewel Olivos, Roselyn Tanghal, Dianne Pablo, Angela Aninon, Diana Lopera, Karl Lacanilao, Jo Ann Reyes, Carlo Ocaya, Ronnel Daven Ringor, Mary tiglaio, Elaine Ermitanio, Bohyum Mun, Jenny Habijan, Maria Theresa Dizon, angelica Rcaelis, Justina Lee, and Suzanne Jetnil.

MHS National Honor Society members must have a GPA of at least 3.5 and uphold the organization's pillars of scholarship, character, service, and leadership to the highest standards. The applicants also undergo a rigorous application process and interview by the school's administration and NHS faculty council.

Husband seeking compromise should give his wife a break

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to my wife for a year and a half, and we have an infant child. I work while my wife stays home. My problem is she doesn't like me playing sports and hanging out with friends.

I have tried to make concessions and cut down playing sports to once a week. (I used to play two or three times a week, but that's not good enough for my wife.) On game night, when I get home she gives me the silent treatment. She used to come to my games but won't now, even though she has girlfriends who attend them.

As for hanging out with my friends, I barely see them anymore—and when I do, they come here. If they stay any longer than 30 minutes, it causes a problem and my wife again won't talk to me for the rest of the night.

I have tried to compromise, but she feels as though any time I spend away from her and the baby is a no-no. Am I wrong to want to play sports and see my guy friends? I have tried talking to her about this, but she thinks any compromise is basically me doing what I want and her having to deal with it.

ONTARIO, CANADA, READER

DEAR READER: You should not become a couch potato or become isolated from your friends because you are married and a parent. And neither should your wife. She may resent the time you spend with your friends because she's stuck at

home taking care of the baby. You are her only adult company, and in a way she may be jealous that you're enjoying freedom that she can't.

Your wife should not be doing all the parenting. One day or evening a week YOU should take care of the baby while SHE takes a break with her friends or family. It could do wonders for your relationship.

If you can agree on this, it could save your marriage. If you can't, then the two of you should get counseling. Marriage isn't supposed to put people in isolation—and that's what it appears your wife is trying to accomplish with you.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: For the past 10 years, the holiday season has brought with it arguments between my wife and me. We both get along with our in-laws and do many things with both sides of our families. But for some reason, my wife makes arrangements for the holidays without discussing them with me first. This year, she told her mom we would host Thanksgiving and that I would have to tell my family we wouldn't be coming to them.

My wife's sisters are not close to their in-laws. Am I wrong to think she should have discussed the matter with me before deciding unilaterally what we're doing for the holidays? Our kids need to see ALL their grandparents on Thanksgiving and Christmas. Oh—our parents live only seven minutes from each other.

HOLIDAY BLUES IN WISCONSIN



Dear Abby

DEAR HOLIDAY BLUES: What your wife did was inconsiderate. You are a couple, and she should have discussed her plan with you before issuing any invitations to see if you were in agreement. If your home is too small to accommodate both sets of in-laws at the same time, a compromise would be to alternate holidays with each set so no family feels excluded.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Is it acceptable to wear a silver dress to a wedding if you are going as a guest and not a member of the bridal party? Or is silver too close to white and therefore taboo?

INVITEE IN COLLEGE PARK, MD.

DEAR INVITEE: The rule is that wedding guests should not wear anything that might distract attention from the bride. If your dress is silver lame or covered in silver sequins, it would be better to dress less conspicuously.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



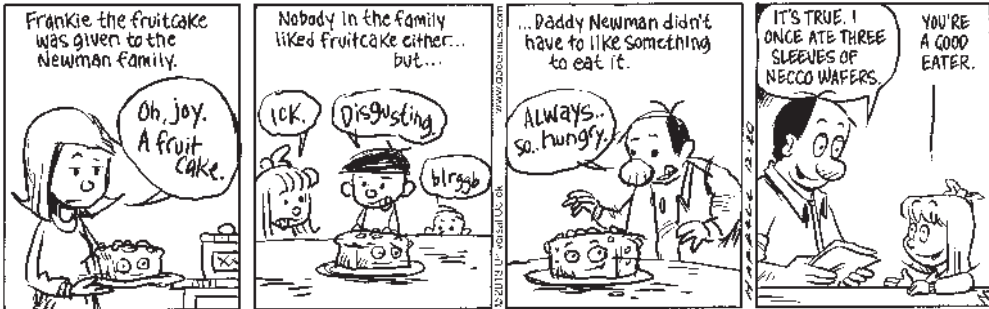
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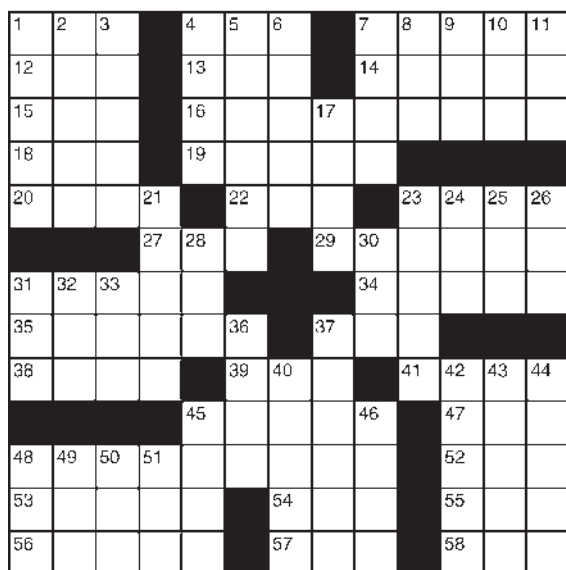
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Blackjack part 41 Fable 2 Cold symptom 23 Robot of Jewish legend 4 Restroom, for short 45 De-nounces 3 Poetic ending 24 Band's booster 7 Immobilized 47 Shock and — 4 Osculation tools 25 Speedometer meas. 12 Junior 48 Noticeable home 5 Triangular 26 Greek vowel 13 "— Had a Hammer" 52 Coop dweller 6 Cello's cousin 28 "Xanadu" group, for short 14 Paramour 53 Quite popular, in cyber-speak 7 Dog bane 30 Shaft of light 15 Dodge Durango, e.g. 54 PBS supporter 9 Eggs 31 Likely 32 Con foe 19 Taco topper 55 Fictional ogre 11 Preceding 33 Filch 36 Bridge 20 Anything but that 56 Old computer language 17 Car-sticker 40 Make corrections 22 Scratch 57 Parched stat 42 "Wheel!" 23 Ready for action 58 Unclose 21 Nickelodeon gunk 43 Insignificant one
- DOWN**
- 1 No liability

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 12-20



STUMPED?

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CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jonah Hill, 30; David Cook, 31; Nicole de Boer, 43; Joel Gretsch, 50.

Happy Birthday: There is money to be made, but budgets must be kept. Your easy come, easy go attitude will need adjusting if you want to prosper. Dedication and detail will have to be a priority if you want to impress anyone influential in your life. Be a leader, not a follower, and you will set a new standard and gain respect. Your numbers are 6, 10, 17, 27, 36, 38, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A change of attitude will give you the confidence you need to make things happen in your life. Explore new people, places and pastimes and you will discover something or someone you really enjoy. A little effort will go a long way. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Do your best to make improvements to your domestic situation. Accommodate the people you love and compromise to keep things running smoothly in your personal life. What you do now will make a difference in the future regarding important relationships. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Re-evaluate how you make money or what your strategy is to improve your earning potential. The solutions you settle on should be using your strongest talents and skills to the utmost. Consider picking up additional knowledge. Self-improvement will pay off. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Get motivated and moving. Don't let the last-minute changes that someone else makes

ruin your plans or your day. Picking up unusual items at a good price will ease the stress that has been building due to family dynamics. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll be feisty and ready to take on whatever comes your way. Plan your day accordingly and use your energy wisely. Shopping or engaging in other activities will require physical endurance. Playful social interaction will round out your day. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take care of your responsibilities. Don't leave room for criticism. Focus on what you can do to help others, as well as making whatever personal changes you want to implement before the year comes to a close. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Make arrangements to travel or plans that include what you are doing during the upcoming festivities. Don't let anyone make you feel bad about the choices you make. You have to be true to yourself first and foremost. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Emotions will flow and sharing feelings with someone you care for will let you know exactly where you stand and what to expect in the future. Romantic plans will help improve a relationship that means the world to you. **

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Present, promote and make yourself heard. Money matters can be taken care of and changes to the way or where you spend your time look favorable. Don't let love cost you; it's what you do, not what you give, that counts. ****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Ask questions and stay on top of a situation that concerns you emotionally. A couple of changes may be required in order to please someone you love. Be careful while traveling or dealing with sticky situations. Listen to concerns carefully. ***



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Offer what you can and follow through with your promises. Consider the changes you want to make regarding your career and your friendships. Re-evaluate what's transpired and use past experience to come up with a solution and a way to move forward. ***



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): It's playtime. Have fun with friends, family or your lover. Expand your interests by trying something new. Get in the spirit of the season and pick up items that will boost your confidence or please someone you love. ***



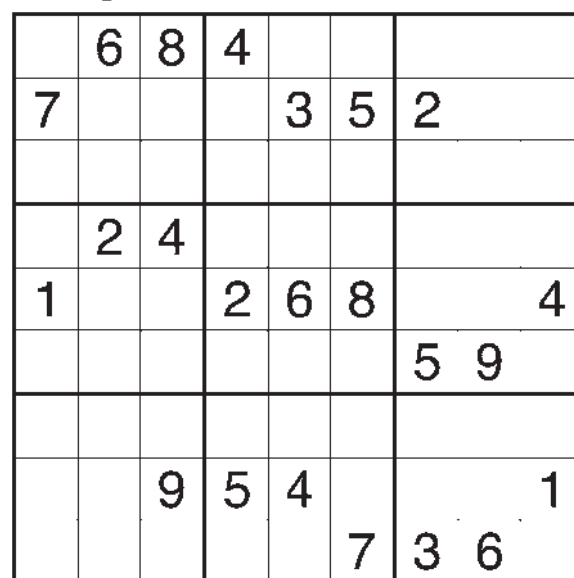
Birthday Baby: You are inquisitive, energetic and quick to react. You are persistent.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



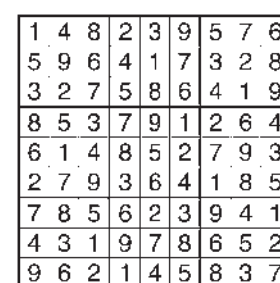
Difficulty Level ★★★★★

12/20

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★

12/15

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SPEECH THERAPY

Solution: 9 letters



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Ability, Advice, Assessments, Assist, Audio, Chats, Code, Communication, Control, Degree, Drinking, Eager, Effect, Games, Goal, Habit, Health, Hear, Idea, Infants, Kids, Language, Learn, Lessons, Literacy, Mouth, Movement, Nerves, Oral, Prisons, Prose, Reason, Safe, School, Sounds, Speak, Stroke, Stutter, Style, Tone, Tongue, Visual, Voice, Warn, Words

Yesterday's Answer: Hang Out

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THE LAW OFFICES OF
MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537
ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
In the Matter of the Estate of **FRANCISCA T. SAKISAT, Deceased.** CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0231E
NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation has filed a Petition for Letters of Administration upon the Estate of Francisca T. Sakisat, Deceased, and that the said Petition will be heard by the Court on January 21, 2014, at the hour of 1:30 pm.
Notice is also given to all heirs of and persons having claims against the Estate of Francisca T. Sakisat, and to all persons claiming an interest in her estate, that they shall file such claims with the Clerk of this Court within sixty (60) days from the date of first publication of this Notice. Copies of such claims should be provided to Michael A. White, Esq., the Law Office of Michael White, LLC, P.O. Box 5222 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950, Attorney for Petitioner. All claims not so filed shall be forever barred.
DATED: December 16, 2013
/s/Clerk of Court

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Late run lifts Heat past Pacers 97-94 in showdown

MIAMI (AP)—For so much of the night, just about everything was going wrong for the Miami Heat. They were missing every 3-pointer, arguing plenty of calls, even screaming at one another.

Then one quick burst changed everything.

Dwyane Wade scored 32 points, LeBron James added 24 on a sore left ankle, and Chris Bosh and Ray Allen connected on huge 3-pointers within a 31-second span down the stretch. It all added up to the Heat erasing a 15-point deficit in the final 18 minutes to beat the rival Indiana Pacers 97-94 on Wednesday.

"It shows we're a team that's been there before," Wade said. "No matter what the score is we always feel we have an opportunity to win the game."

So even when Indiana led 68-53 midway through third quarter, hope remained.

And even when James and Mario Chalmers were getting in a heated exchange during one particularly bleak stretch—James said afterward that he was wrong, and Chalmers said the matter was forgotten—the Heat didn't fall apart.

"It was a good win," James said. "Good, good, quality win against a very good team on our home floor. We had to overcome a lot."

Paul George scored 25 points for Indiana but missed a 3-pointer that would have tied it with 4 seconds left, and insisted afterward that he was fouled by James on the play.

"I went into my shot, got pushed in the back, I thought it was a foul, nothing was called, and we lost the game," George said. "Aside of that we still should have taken care of business."

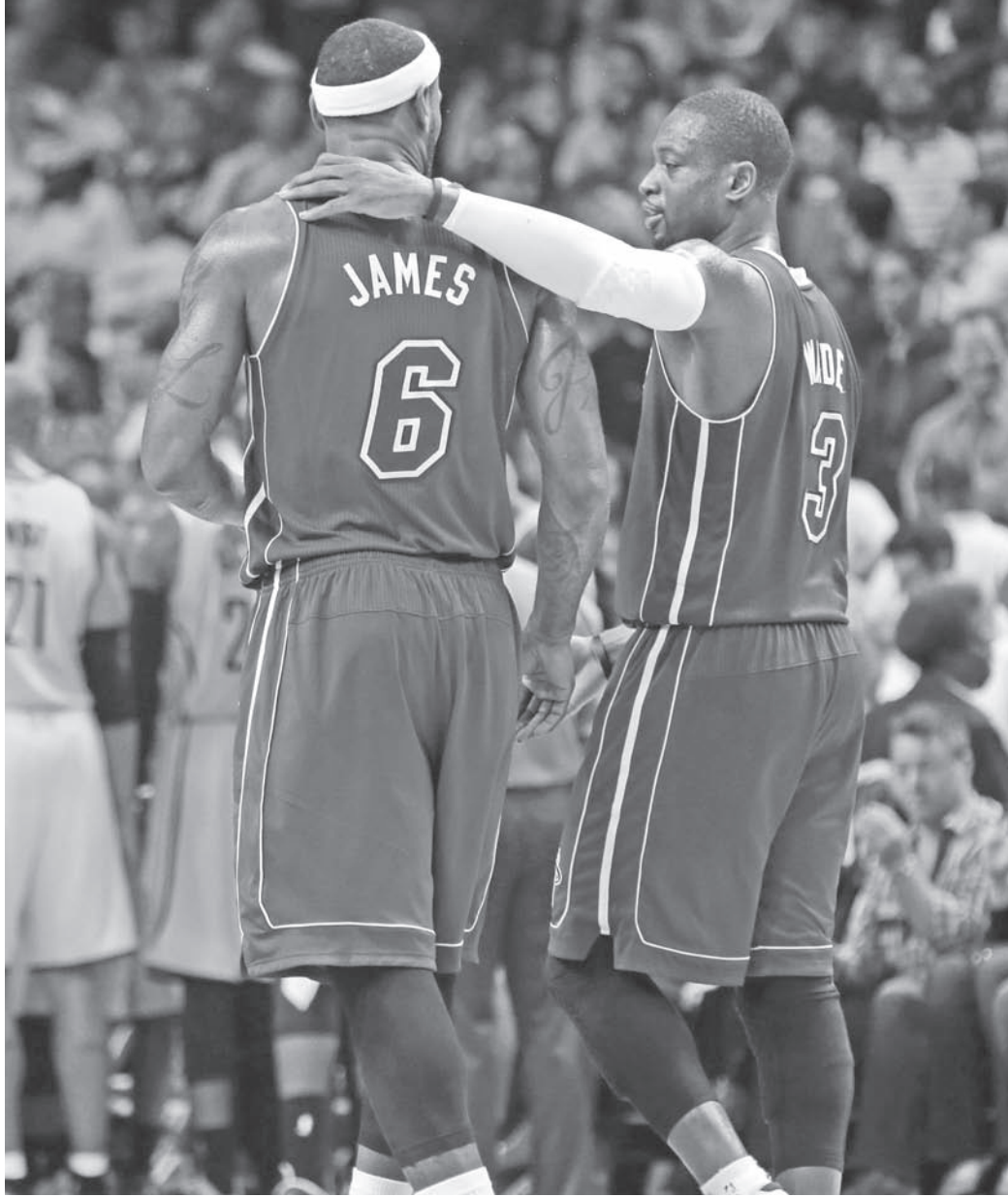
David West had 23 points and Lance Stephenson added 13 for the Pacers, who have dropped two straight and saw their lead over Miami in the Eastern Conference trimmed to one game. Both teams have won against the other on their home floor this season, and Miami topped Indiana at home in Game 7 of the East finals a year ago.

"It's December," Pacers coach Frank Vogel said. "I think you have two great teams going at it. It's going to be a fun series all season, the regular-season matchups, and hopefully we will both be able to reach a point in the playoffs where we can meet again."

Miami got the 15-point deficit down to five by the end of the third quarter, and was still down 92-85 when West scored with 3:21 remaining.

Then, for the first time all night, the Heat put together a real run.

The Heat scored the next 10 points—Bosh's 3-pointer, his first in 15 attempts, tied it at 92. And after George missed in the lane at the other end, James brought the ball the other way



Miami Heat's LeBron James (6) and Dwyane Wade (3) talk in the closing seconds of an NBA basketball game against the Indiana Pacers, Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2013, in Miami.

and found Allen for a 3-pointer that put the Heat ahead for the first time since the score was 14-13.

They didn't trail again.

"I was encouraged by our ability to stay focused and show some resolve in the second half," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "It wasn't necessarily pretty, but you have to make enough plays ... and a lot of times against this opponent it has to be like that, where it's not smooth and you have to make enough plays to just give yourself a chance in the end."

The Pacers had a chance at the lead late, but it went awry when George Hill turned the ball over on a pass with 14 seconds left. Allen made two free throws with 10.3 seconds remaining to put Miami up by three, and that capped the scoring.

Pacers center Roy Hibbert got his fourth foul early in the third, and Vogel opted to leave him in the game. The gamble appeared to backfire 46 seconds later when Hibbert picked up his fifth with 8:34 remaining in the quarter.

Hibbert went to the bench—but the Pacers didn't miss a beat.

George made three free throws after getting hit beyond the arc by Chalmers to put Indiana up 66-51 midway through the third, and the Pacers' lead was still 14 with 4:17 left in the period.

"They stole the game from us," West said.

Even though the teams

won't see each other again until March, and with the playoffs still 50-something games away, there was clearly a little more meaning to this one.

James was questionable because of a bad ankle, the one he twisted in Monday's win over Utah. Vogel was questionable because of bad spaghetti - at least, he thinks that's what caused a quick bout with illness that set in after he dined Tuesday night.

By game time, both pronounced themselves ready.

Spurs 108, Suns 101

In Phoenix, Manu Ginobili scored 11 of his 24 points in the final 4-plus minutes, and San Antonio pulled away to snap Phoenix's five-game winning streak.

Tim Duncan added 17 points and 13 rebounds and Kawhi Leonard scored 14 for the Spurs, who were without injured point guard Tony Parker.

Channing Frye scored 15 of his 22 points in the first quarter for the Suns. Goran Dragic had 18 points and Eric Bledsoe 15, but the two guards were a combined 12 of 33 from the field.

Led by Ginobili, the Spurs outscored the Suns 15-6 over the final 4:11 after Phoenix took a 95-93 lead.

Mavericks 105, Grizzlies 88

In Dallas, Dirk Nowitzki scored 20 points in his return to the

lineup and Dallas defeated short-handed Memphis.

The Mavericks (15-10) have won two straight to equal their season high of five games over .500. Memphis (10-15) has lost five in a row and seven of eight.

Monta Ellis scored 16 of his 18 points in the second half for Dallas. Nowitzki added six rebounds, five assists, two steals and one blocked shot.

While the Mavericks got their star forward back following a one-game absence due to a stomach virus, Memphis was without three injured starters.

Tayshaun Prince missed his first game this season because of a sore left knee, and the Grizzlies already were without point guard Mike Conley and center Marc Gasol. Tony Allen led Memphis with 16 points and 11 rebounds — 10 on the offensive end.

Rockets 109, Bulls 94

In Houston, Dwight Howard scored 23 points and James Harden and Chandler Parsons added 19 each as Houston used a big third-quarter run to pull away from Chicago.

The Bulls trailed by three with 5½ minutes left in the third before their offense went cold. Houston took advantage of the scoring drought, using a 15-1 spurt to make it 83-66 entering the final period.

Rockets coach Kevin McHale returned after missing the previous three games following the

death of his mother.

Jimmy Butler's 20 points led the Bulls, who have dropped three in a row and 12 of 15.

Wizards 113, Nets 107

In New York, John Wall scored 21 points and made two big defensive plays against Deron Williams down the stretch to lead Washington over Brooklyn.

Nene added 17 points in his return from injury for the Wizards, who completed a New York sweep after a victory over the Knicks on Monday following a four-game losing streak.

Trevor Ariza and Bradley Beal each finished with 15 points.

Paul Pierce had a season-high 27 points for the Nets, and Brook Lopez added 22 after missing two games with a sprained left ankle. Joe Johnson finished with 20.

The Nets shot 53 percent from the field, but the Wizards put seven players in double figures and made 12 3-pointers.

Hawks 124, Kings 107

In Atlanta, Kyle Korver made seven consecutive 3-point attempts on his way to a season-high 28 points, pushing Atlanta to the victory.

Al Horford added 25 points and 10 rebounds for the Hawks, who have won two straight and five of seven. Jeff Teague finished with 18 points and tied a career high with 15 assists.

DeMarcus Cousins scored 28 points, Rudy Gay had 22 and Isaiah Thomas 20 for the Kings, who allowed a season high in points.

The Hawks outscored the Kings 39-20 in the fourth quarter of their 12th consecutive victory against Sacramento. Horford made consecutive jumpers to help Atlanta open a 117-105 lead with 2:49 left.

Jazz 86, Magic 82

In Orlando, Fla, Trey Burke had a career-high 30 points and eight assists, leading Utah to the road win.

Orlando had a chance to tie the game in the closing seconds, but Jameer Nelson's layup rolled off the rim and was rebounded by Utah with just 3 seconds left. Gordon Hayward, who scored 15 points for the Jazz, then made a pair of free throws.

The Jazz snapped a two-game losing streak and extended their win streak over the Magic to six games.

Orlando played without leading scorer Arron Afflalo, who was sick. He had started every game this season.

Nelson led Orlando with 17 points. Nikola Vucevic had 14 points and 14 rebounds.

Bobcats 104, Raptors 102, OT

In Toronto, Kemba Walker hit a buzzer-beating jumper in overtime, and Charlotte snapped a three-game losing streak in Toronto.

Walker had 29 points and Al Jefferson collected 24 points and 11 rebounds as the Bobcats won their second straight. Five of Jefferson's points came in overtime.

Charlotte had six players score in double figures. Josh McRoberts had 13 points, Ramon Sessions and Gerald Henderson each scored 11 and Anthony Tolliver finished with 10 points.

DeMar DeRozan scored 30 points and Kyle Lowry had 17 for the Raptors. Amir Johnson fouled out with 10 points and 13 rebounds.

Pistons 107, Celtics 106

In Boston, Brandon Jennings led Detroit to its third win in four games, scoring 28 points and matching his season high with 14 assists.

Andre Drummond had 14 points and 16 rebounds and Josh Smith added 20 points for the Pistons, who won for the seventh time in 11 games overall.

Jared Sullinger scored 19 points, Jordan Crawford had 17 and Avery Bradley 14 for the Celtics, who lost for just the third time in nine games.

Boston's Jeff Green missed a driving one-hander wildly just before the horn sounded. He had 13 points.

Knicks 107, Bucks 101, 2OT

In Milwaukee, Tyson Chandler returned from his broken leg and J.R. Smith hit a go-ahead jumper in the second overtime to help New York beat Milwaukee.

Carmelo Anthony scored 29 points and Beno Udrih added a season-high 21 for the Knicks. Chandler, who had been out since Nov. 5, had nine points and nine rebounds. Smith scored 19.

Brandon Knight had a career-high 36 points for the Bucks, who have lost four straight. John Henson had 20 points and 14 rebounds, while Khris Middleton added 20 points.

Clippers 108, Pelicans 95

In Los Angeles, Blake Griffin and DeAndre Jordan each had a double-double, and the Los Angeles Clippers beat the New Orleans Pelicans to give coach Doc Rivers a victory over his son's team.

Griffin had 21 points and 10 rebounds before fouling out with 4:05 left, and Jordan added 14 points and 20 rebounds in the Clippers' third straight victory. Chris Paul added his own double-double against his former team, with 12 points and 11 assists.

Jared Dudley had 20 points, one of seven Clippers in double figures. Jamal Crawford scored 17 points, making 10 of 11 free throws, and Darren Collison added 14, hitting all nine of his free throws.

Anthony Davis led the Pelicans with 24 points and 12 rebounds in his return after missing seven games with a broken left hand.

MLB average salary up 5.4 percent to \$3.39 million

NEW YORK

(AP)—While the New York Yankees set another salary record, the Houston Astros had the lowest average in the major leagues in 14 years and the attention of the players' union.

The overall big league average rose 5.4 percent this season to a record \$3.39 million, according to the annual report released Wednesday by the Major League Baseball Players Association. The increase was the steepest since 2006.

In the economy at large, civilian compensation is increasing at an annual rate of 1.9 percent, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The average U.S. wage in 2012 was \$42,498, according to the Social Security Administration.

The Yankees had the highest average for the 15th consecutive season at \$8.17 million, breaking the mark of \$7.66 million when they won the World Series in 2009. The Los Angeles Dodgers were second at \$7.82 million.

Houston's average of \$549,603 was the smallest since the 1999 Kansas City Royals at \$534,460. The Miami Marlins were 29th at \$830,069, down from \$3.77 million in 2012, when they ranked 10th.

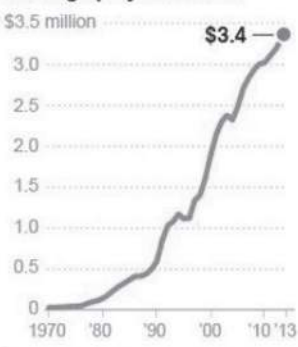
Baseball's collective bargaining agreement requires a team to use revenue-sharing money it



Major increase

The average baseball player's salary increased 5.4 percent from last year's average of \$3.2 million.

Average player salaries



SOURCE: Major League Baseball Players Association

what their 2013 spending would be and that there wasn't enough there to move beyond acknowledging as much," new union head Tony Clark said in an email to The Associated Press. "With Houston a big factor is their impending 'market disqualification.' For Miami, they actually have a long-range plan that suggests they will make the considerations necessary to be compli-

ant.

"That said, both clubs are being monitored, and MLB recognizes that there is a potential for a dispute if the clubs do not move in the right direction."

World Series champion Boston was fourth at \$5.46 million, just behind Detroit at \$5.53 million. St. Louis, which won the NL pennant, was 10th at \$3.75 million.

Tampa Bay had the lowest ranking among the 10 playoff teams and was 24th at \$2.13 million.

Among regulars at positions, designated hitters took over from first basemen for the highest average at \$10.5 million. First basemen were next at \$6.5 million, followed by starting pitchers at \$6.3 million, second basemen at \$5.8 million, outfielders at \$5.6

million, third basemen at \$5.2 million, shortstops at \$4.5 million, catchers at \$4.4 million and relief pitchers at \$2.2 million.

Figures are based on Aug. 31 rosters and disabled lists, with 940 players averaging \$3,386,212. Major League Baseball, which uses slightly different methods, calculated its average at \$3,320,089, an increase of 6.9 percent.

Seattle's CB Browner suspended indefinitely

RENTON, Wash.

(AP)—Seattle Seahawks cornerback Brandon Browner was suspended indefinitely by the NFL on Wednesday for violating the league's substance abuse policy.

The suspension is the second in two seasons for Browner. He was suspended four games last season for violating the league's policy on performance-enhancing substances. He's the second Seahawks player to be suspended for violating the substance abuse policy this season. Fellow cornerback Walter Thurmond is serving the final week of a four-game suspension.

Browner, whose suspension is effective immediately and without pay, sent out a lengthy statement vowing that he would continue to fight his suspension and sounding resigned that his career with the Seahawks was over.



"I want to thank the Seahawks organization for the incredible opportunity they gave me when they took a chance on a player who was out of the NFL and playing in the CFL for 4 years," Browner wrote. "I also want to thank all of my teammates, coaches, trainers, staff and the 12's (fans) for their support, respect, and friendship and for helping me grow into the player, father, and person I am today. I have been treated with nothing but first class by everyone associated with the Seattle Seahawks and for that I am forever grateful."

"Although I disagree with the circumstances surrounding my suspension, I accept responsibility for all of my actions and I apologize for any that causes any unflattering reflections of my family and the Seahawks. I believe in my innocence and will continue to fight with all legal resources available to me to."

Browner, who was injured in Week 10 against Atlanta and hasn't played since, filed an appeal of the suspension while injured and the Seahawks were waiting for an answer from the league. Seattle coach Pete Carroll said earlier Wednesday before the suspension was announced that he was frustrated the process for making a determination on Browner's status had taken so long.

"It has taken a long time and I've been a little disappointed in that, but we're handling it," Carroll said.

Browner is in his third season with the Seahawks. He started all 26 games he has played for the Seahawks and has 19 tackles, one interception and 10 passes defended this season. He was a Pro Bowl selection in 2011 when he had 23 passes defended and six interceptions, but had not been able to match

those numbers in the subsequent two seasons.

Browner was to become a free agent after the season and could file for reinstatement after one year.

News of the suspensions for both Browner and Thurmond came as the Seahawks were returning from their bye in late November. Browner is the seventh official suspension for a Seattle player for substance-abuse or performance-enhancing drugs violations by the league since 2011. That doesn't include Richard Sherman, whose suspension was overturned on appeal late last season.

The two suspensions have given chances to backups Byron Maxwell and Jeremy Lane. They have played well enough that it was not guaranteed Thurmond or Browner would get their starting spots back when they returned.

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SAIPAN 234-7368



Running down the 35 bowl games

By JOHN MARSHALL
AP COLLEGE FOOTBALL WRITER

This is it, the final go-round for the BCS.

The much-maligned system for determining college football's national champion will be mothballed after this season, replaced by a four-team playoff next season.

As finales go, it's hard to argue too much about the final title-game participants. Florida State was the only major-conference team to finish undefeated and Auburn had the best resume of the one-loss teams.

That's the big one, but of course there are 34 other bowls, starting with four on Saturday, that will feature plenty of other good teams, star players and interesting match-ups.

To get you ready, we've got a rundown of what to look for:

TOP GAMES

BCS National Championship, Florida State vs. Auburn, Jan. 6, Pasadena, Calif. Duh.

Sugar Bowl, Alabama vs. Oklahoma, Jan. 2, New Or-

leans. Two storied programs that fell short of their national-title aspirations are still pretty good.

Orange Bowl, Ohio State vs. Clemson, Jan. 3, Miami. Teams that are a combined 45-5 since the start of last season and among the highest-scoring in college football.

Rose Bowl, Stanford vs. Michigan State, Jan. 1, Pasadena, Calif. If you like smash-mouth, defensive-minded football, this is your game.

AdvoCare V100 Bowl, Arizona vs. Boston College, Dec. 31, Shreveport, La. So what's so exciting about two 7-5 teams? Two All-American running backs going at each other: Arizona's Ka'Deem Carey and BC's Andre Williams.

TOP PLAYERS

Jameis Winston, QB, Florida State. Won the Heisman Trophy, playing for a national championship. Not a bad freshman season.

AJ McCarron, QB, Alabama. There will be no three-peat as national champion, but he's been as good a college quarterback as we've seen in a while.

C.J. Mosley, LB, Alabama. Collects tackles like baseball cards.

Ka'Deem Carey, RB, Arizona. Second nationally in yards per game, runs like he's trying to punish defenders for daring to tackle him.

Johnny Manziel, QB, Texas A&M. Last year's Heisman winner could be making his last hurrah in the Chick-Fil-A Bowl against Duke.

Will Sutton, DT, Arizona State. Arguably the most disruptive interior lineman in the country.

Brandin Cooks, WR, Oregon State. All-American can turn the simplest of routes into a score.

SPONSORS

Food is king among bowl sponsors for the third straight

season.

The 2013-14 bowl season includes seven bowls with food affiliations, from potatoes to pizza to wild wings.

Second on the list are financial companies with six and auto-related companies are third with five.

This year's bowl lineup also includes a helicopter company, a university, a defense contractor, a department store and a cause (Fight Hunger).

ODDS

The folks at Glantz-Culver have made Florida State a decided favorite over Auburn in the national championship game at 8 1-2 points.

In the other bowls, the biggest spread is the Fiesta Bowl, where Baylor is a 16 1-2-point favorite over Central Florida. Right behind is the Pinstripe Bowl, with Notre Dame giving away 15 1-2 points to Rutgers. Alabama also is a 15-point favorite over Oklahoma in the Sugar Bowl.

Tightest odds? San Diego

State and Buffalo are a pick 'em in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl and three other bowls - Cotton, New Orleans and Capital One - all have 1-point spreads.

DISTANCES

Florida State and Auburn will have to make quite a road trip to play for the final BCS championship despite being about 200 miles apart.

The Seminoles will cover about 2,200 miles to get to the

Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif., and the Tigers have a trip of roughly 2,100 miles to get there.

That's still not the longest road trip to a bowl. That distinction belongs to Boise State, which will travel about 2,800 miles to play Oregon State in the Hawaii Bowl. Central Florida also has a long trip ahead of it before the Fiesta Bowl, needing to go over 2,100 miles to get from Orlando to Glendale, Ariz.

MGA holds December Ace tourney Sunday

Marianas Golf Association would like inform its members that the December Ace of the Month as well as the opening of the two-day Ace of Aces will be held Sunday, Dec. 22, on the west course of the Laolao Bay & Golf Resort.

Show time for this tournament is 9am with a scheduled tee time of 10am. This weekend's tournament will be a 2-in-1 event as MGA will be able to determine the December Ace of the Month

and record scores for Day 1 of the club's Ace of Aces battle.

The following individuals earned the monthly Ace of the Month: Rep. Tony Benavente (January), Geri Dela Cruz (February), Juan "Shine" Tenorio (March), Greg Sablan Jr. (April), Ernest Sablan (May), Joey Delacruz (June), J.J. Atalig (July), Jack Salas (August), John Poiroux (September), Harry Nakamura (October), and Ron Benavente (November).

For more information on this organization and for further updates on the upcoming tournaments, please contact J.J. Atalig at 285-4115, Greg Sablan Jr. at 483-8263, or email marianas-golf670@gmail.com. The public can also view the organization's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MarianasGolfAssociation. (MGA)

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Boston	12	15	.444	—
Toronto	9	14	.391	1
Brooklyn	9	16	.360	2
New York	8	17	.320	3
Philadelphia	7	19	.269	4½

Southeast Division

Miami	19	6	.760	—
Atlanta	14	12	.538	5½
Charlotte	12	14	.462	7½
Washington	11	13	.458	7½
Orlando	8	18	.308	11½

Central Division

Indiana	20	5	.800	—
Detroit	13	14	.481	8
Chicago	9	15	.375	10½
Cleveland	9	15	.375	10½
Milwaukee	5	20	.200	15

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	20	5	.800	—
Houston	17	9	.654	3½
Dallas	15	10	.600	5
New Orleans	11	13	.458	8½
Memphis	10	15	.400	10

Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	20	4	.833	½
Portland	22	5	.815	—
Denver	14	10	.583	6½
Minnesota	13	13	.500	8½
Utah	7	21	.250	15½

Pacific Division

L.A. Clippers	18	9	.667	—
Phoenix	14	10	.583	2½
Golden State	14	12	.538	3½
L.A. Lakers	12	13	.480	5
Sacramento	7	17	.292	9½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN ANTONIO

From Page 32

Antonio more cushion, 62-59, 18.3 second to go in the game.

With the clock going down, Island Floral tried to retaliate quickly, but Standish's long throw from the baseline to their front court was too strong, as Jun Tabora only had a hand on it and eventually lost control. Earlier in the last two minutes, Standish also made an errant pass to Syl Teregeyo, who also committed an error when the leather hit his foot while going for a drive and trying to bring Island Floral closer to San Antonio.

With Standish and Tabora's miscue, Island Floral was forced to foul Nevin Salem, who split his charities, but returned to the stripe anew when Cecilio Bisana fumbled after

recovering the ball off the rebound play. Salem then went 2-for-2 from the foul line to ice it for San Antonio, 64-59, going into the last 11 seconds of the match.

Jack Aranda top-scored for San Antonio with his 21 points, leading his team's recovery early in the fourth quarter. The final canto saw Island Floral launching a 6-0 run to turn a 46-49 third quarter deficit to a 52-49 lead. Bryle Alegre then ended drought with his undergoal stab, while Aranda hit 4-for-4 from the line and Salem added one free throw to help San Antonio regain the driver's seat. San Antonio remained in control, as Island Floral was held to one field goal in the next four minutes of play, making more turnovers than baskets. Island Floral was so disorganized in the majority of the fourth, as

quarterback Ferdie Tobias was on the bench for several minutes due to foul trouble.

Meanwhile, almost everything worked well for Docomo in the fourth period against I Love Saipan. Four players canned multiple baskets for Docomo's balance offense, while I Love Saipan bled for points in the pivotal fourth. I Love Saipan, who came off two big wins in the playoffs, this time fell short against Docomo after scoring only 7 points and three field goals in the fourth canto.

Docomo's James Villacrusis doubled-up I Love Saipan, as he nailed 14 of his 18 markers in the fourth frame, while Jimmy Tudela also showed up in the deciding quarter, adding 8 points. Juan Camacho and Rolly Paraiso combined for 11 points in the fourth.

LITTLE

From Page 32

but also less than a month before Saipan Little League kicks off its 2014 season. Rogolifoi said the league is set to start their competition on Jan. 17. So far 29 teams have registered for the new season with 12 set

to play in the Major division, six apiece in the Junior and Senior League, and five in the Big League. Interested teams have until next week to express interest in SLLB's tournament.

"We would like to thank World Resort for this generous donation. Every year, we struggle to find funding and put up the tourna-

ment so World Resort's financial aid will go a long way toward ensuring that we will continue to conduct the Little League program for our youth," Rogolifoi said.

Kim, for this part, said baseball has a special place in his heart, as he is a fan of Korea's professional baseball league. Kim added he is aware of some Korean pro teams

instill interest to the sport to these kids," said Angeles, who with other SSS staff and Chelsea coaches had also visited the centers in the past years to conduct soccer clinics.

"Early next year, we will be back kids and teachers so we can play soccer again," Angeles told the children at the JMR Headstart Center.

SSS has been visiting schools to have soccer clinics and present Christmas gifts to children for the past three years and Lee was part of these occasions.

"It's nice to know the kids remember us when we come back to the center. They call us coaches and ask us when are we going to play next," Lee said.

Suzuki, a first-timer in SSS' gift-giving program, said seeing the kids smile and behave well while waiting for their turns to receive their gifts makes him feel the holiday spirit more.

Carol Camacho and Lanelle Okawa, who teach at the JMS Headstart Center, thanked SSS,

visiting Saipan regularly to conduct training sessions here.

World Resort's donation will be used to purchase trophies for the four divisions and equipment needed during the competition. In the past years, trophies were awarded to winners several months after the competition had already concluded, but with World

its officials, and staff for creating programs for their students. Okawa said soccer drills help their students develop motor skills. Camacho, on the other hand, said her students were excited to receive their Christmas presents early.

Angeles said they will continue the gift-giving program next year and possibly include the Headstart center in Oleai in their 2014 calendar.

"To all the Headstart centers we visited, thank you for accommodating us. We will see

Resort coming in to support the league, the practice will soon be changed.

Besides providing funding for the trophies, Babauta said World Resort is also supporting two teams in the league. World Resort is open, too to discussions about having fundraising efforts for the league.

you next year for more fun and more soccer," Angeles said.

Meanwhile, SSS will kick off its holiday co-ed futsal league this Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex. Four U13 teams will be playing in the league—Fake Madrid, Kanoa Mighty Orange, Astig Futsal, and Footloose.

Squads will compete in the double-round robin tournament with the Top 2 advancing to the finals. Saturday matches are set for 4pm and 5pm, while Monday and Friday games are scheduled for 5:30pm and 6:30pm.

7th Annual SSC Jingle Bell Fun Run Part 1

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Participants in Wednesday's 7th Annual SSC Jingle Bell Fun Run pose for a photo at the starting line.



Brad Ruszala and his children, Leilani and Keoni, wait for the start of the race.



Nikky Gabaldon smiles to the camera, as she and her son head to Beach Road.



Two kid runners try to keep up with an adult runner on their way to Beach Road.



Rintaro Miyawaki picks up his pace on the way back to the start/finish line.



A small group of runners slows it down past the halfway mark of the 4.5-kilometer race.



Three runners head back to the start/finish line.



Two runners share a good laugh while heading back to the start/finish line.



Juanita Fajardo, left, leads runners cruising along the shore of Beach Road.



Two Saipan Swim Club members make their way back to Minatchom Atdao pavilion.



Late run lifts Heat past Pacers 97-94 in showdown

PAGE 28

Saipan Tribune Sports



Running down the 35 bowl games

PAGE 30

32 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

San Antonio vs Docomo in finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

San Antonio and Docomo played heads-up basketball in the fourth quarter to eliminate their semis foes and set up their title duel in the 2nd DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League.

Docomo came back from a 7-point deficit in the third and cruised to a 77-63 victory in its semis game against I Love Saipan, while San Antonio pulled off to a 68-61 triumph versus Island Floral in the second Final Four pairing last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.



Island Floral managed to threaten San Antonio, cutting the lead to 1, 59-60, after Ferdie Tobias made a crosscourt pass to Syl Teregeyo, who converted a shot from the right baseline, 35.7 seconds left on the clock.

Now ahead by only a point, San Antonio was pressed to hit a basket and did what the doctor ordered with J.P. Villanueva and Ezra Caro teaming up in the crucial play. Villanueva drove to the basket and drew the defense of Island Floral's Alex Standish before dishing the ball out to Ezra Caro, who was just one step away from drilling the important basket that gave San

See SAN ANTONIO on Page 30



Island Floral's Ferdie Tobias, left, fumbles, as he is pressured by San Antonio's J.P. Villanueva, while Nevin Salem stands by for help defense during the fourth quarter of their semis game in the DL Corp. caging last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Little League gets \$10K from World Resort



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan World Resort and Saipan Little League Baseball, Inc. officials pose with the ceremonial check during the donation turnover ceremony yesterday at the Lilac Room of the Saipan World Resort.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Little League Baseball, Inc. received an early Christmas gift after getting a \$10,000 donation from Saipan World Resort yesterday afternoon.

Hyung Cho Kim, president and general manager of Han-

wha Hotels & Resort Co. Ltd, which operates World Resort, led the turnover of the ceremonial check at the Lilac Room of the Susupe hotel of the Susupe hotel to SLLBI president Tony Rogolifoi. Also present at the ceremony were World Resort AXG director Jake Park,



sales and marketing manager Mike Babauta, and HR manager Miriam Seman and SLLBI officials Joey Dela Cruz, Vinnie Sablan, Tiara Evangelista, Derron Flores, A.J. Murig, and Annie Flores.

"We had discussions in the past months to determine which

organizations we are going to support. For sports, we chose baseball, as a lot of kids on island are playing it," said Seman, adding they decided to make the donation this month in the spirit of gift-giving.

World Resort's donation was indeed timely, as it was done not only during the holiday season

See LITTLE on Page 30

Saipan Soccer School gives gifts to Headstart centers

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Soccer School visited three Headstart centers this week to present Christmas gifts to children.

The gift-giving activity started last Tuesday with SSS staff and Chelsea FC Soccer School Hong Kong coaches

meeting children and teachers at Headstart centers in Chalan Kanoa and San Antonio. The final stop was the Joaquina M.

Rabauliman Head Start Center in Chinatown last Wednesday. SSS staff members Angie Ito, Jerishwin Angeles, Russell Zapanta, and Irish Pag-arao and Chelsea FC's

See SAIPAN on Page 30



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Students of the Joaquina M. Rabauliman Head Start Center in Chinatown line up while Saipan Soccer School staff and Chelsea FC Soccer School Hong Kong coaches give gifts last Wednesday.